Syrian and Israel forces in further clash.

Egypt And Yemen.

Saudi Arabian town bombed by Egypt.

Arab League cuts off aid to Jordan Army.

Egypt in The Times Newspaper 1967

Part 2 (July 1, December 31, 1967)

Egypt Closes Gulf Of Aqaba To Israel Ships.

Nasser threat on Suez Canal.

Israel Claims Sinai

Israel Claims Sinai G

President Nasser Offers To Resign.

More moderation over Arab oil

Boycott value questioned

From NICHOLAS HERBERT, Middle East Correspondent—
Beirut, June 30

Saudi Arabia has come out against the Arab boycott of Anglo-American oil interests, and Egypt seemed today to be moderating its enmity towards Britain at least. These developments coincided with evidence that King Faisal of Saudi Arabia might be preparing to revive pressure for Islamic solidarity, an issue which tends to split the Arabs ideologically.

Too much cannot be read into such trends as yet. The Arab world is in too great a state of flux and the outcome at the United Nations remains too uncertain for any definite conclusions about possible changes in the balance of power among Arab countries.

However, a statement by Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Minister of Oil, questioning the value of the oil boycott, was the first official pronouncement of its kind, and the soft words from Cairo came from the pen of no less a man than Muhammad Hassanein Heykal, President Nasser's confidant and friend.

Permanent bridges

Arabs made the mistake, Mr. Heykal said, of establishing direct and effective contacts with the outside world only at moments of hardship, whereas they should keep open permanent bridges. Support in Europe should be exploited. France's attitude was encouraging, and there were opportunities in Italy, Spain or even Britain. "We should note that even if Britain is the United States' follower, their interests in the Middle East conflict at some points," he wrote.

Such language is a far cry from his suggestion two weeks ago that Britain was nothing but a lion's tail fly-whisk for President Johnson.

Mr. Heykal criticized Arab radios for inciting bloodshed, saying: "If we turned our glorious struggle into a blood bath, the world would turn away from us." This amounts to recognition that the hyperbole to which Arab radio speakers are so addicted gave Israel a useful pretext for alleging that it was about to be exterminated.

Mr. Heykal reserved some of his ire for the United States, which he said had been proved synonymous with Israel, and he renewed charges of American collusion with Israel.

Shaikh Yamani, whose interview with a Saudi newspaper was broadcast by Mecca radio last night, said that the Arabs stood to lose as much economically as they had already lost territorially if the oil boycott continued. He put Saudi losses at more than £11m. for the 24 days during which it applied the total oil cutoff, and said that daily losses now were at least £125,000 with the ban on shipments to certain countries.

The embargo was hurting the oil producers much more than the consumers, and a study should be made to see whether it could cause the economies of oil-producing states to collapse.

In Iraq, however, where this possibility is strongest, the official news agency has announced measures to ensure that oil pumped through the pipeline to Lebanon will go only to France and Turkey.

Mr. Abdel Sattar Ali Al Husain, the Iraq Minister of Oil, was said to have outlined these in a note to the Iraq Petroleum Company and the Syrian and Lebanese Ambassadors. The measures included a ban on shipments in Britain or American tankers, and required ships' captains to furnish after a voyage documents showing that the oil had been delivered to the proper destination. Failure to do so would result in suspension from ever carrying Iraq oil again.

Before the war Iraq tried to avoid too close an identity with the revolutionary Arab states because of the need to watch relations with such neighbours as Turkey and Iran. Now its relations with Jordan have become closer, although the presence of large numbers of Iraq troops in Jordan could be a two-edged sword, and much seems to depend on King Husain's intentions. He has been emphasizing the need for an Arab summit to chart a new course, and he was reported today to have confirmed that he looked still to Britain and the United States for military assistance.

From Saudi Arabia, however, has come evidence that King Faisal may still yearn for a summit of wider proportions. The Jidda newspaper Okaz, commenting on proposals for a meeting of heads of governments, said: "Let it be an Islamic summit." It added that top priority should be given to organizing such a meeting in Mecca, the heart of the Islamic world.

In Syria, a summit of a different order is imminent. Mr. Podgorny, the Soviet President, is balancing his recent visit to Egypt with one to Damascus. He was reported to have left Moscow by air today, but it was not known whether he was going straight to Syria.

Revenue losses—Business News, page 17.



More moderation over Arab oil.
From NICHOLAS HERBERT, Middle East Correspondent-

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Jul 01, 1967; pg. 3; Issue 56982.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS51473633

OBITUARY

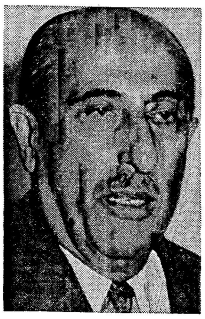
MR SHUKRY KUWATLY

Former president of Syria

Shukry Kuwatly, a former President of Syria to whom President Nasser gave the title of "First Arab Citizen", died in Beirut yesterday. He was 76.

Born in Damascus he early espoused the cause of Syrian Nationalism, and during the 1914-18 War was imprisoned by the Turks for complicity in the anti-Turkish underground movement which flourished in Syria until its occupation by the Allied forces. He collaborated with the regime established by the Emir Faisal in Damascus after its capture in 1918, but did not follow the Emir into exile when he was expelled by the French in 1920 and remained in Damascus to carry on opposition to the French occupation and, later, to the French Mandatory regime which was set up in 1922 by virtue of the Conference of San Remo. In 1925 he was one of a number of Damascus politicians who participated in the Druze revolt, and after its collapse and his own flight he was condemned to death *in absentia* by the French. In 1931, having been pardoned, he returned to Syria and became the leader of the Istiqlalists, the most extreme of several groups within the main political party, the National Bloc.

In 1936 he was a member of the Syrian delegation to Paris which initialled a Franco-Syrian Treaty of Friendship and Alliance; later that year, after the block had won a sweeping victory in a general election, he became Minister of Finance and of Defence in a Government headed by Jamil Mardam. The treaty was duly ratified by the Syrian Chamber, but ran into powerful opposition in France; in a vain attempt to secure its ratification by



the French Chamber Mardam consented to a series of concessions over its terms which aroused in turn strong opposition in Syria. In 1938, in protest against these concessions, Kuwatly resigned from the Government and reverted to his role of leader of the most extreme nationalist wing of the block, in which capacity he rapidly enhanced his prestige in Syria by the vehemence of his denunciations of any suggestion of compromise over the Syrian demand for full independence.

The outbreak of the Second World War brought about a suspension of constitutional life in the Levant States and also of the Franco-Syrian discussions about the Treaty, which gradually became a dead letter. Kuwatly and his group, however, continued their campaign for full independence and during the Vichy period undoubtedly had contacts with the Italian Armistice Commission in Beirut, and with visiting Nazi officials, in the hope of enlisting their support and thereby bringing pressure on the French. In 1941, therefore, when British and Free French forces liberated the country, Kuwatly found it prudent to leave it. After a year's absence, during which he visited other Arab capitals and made the pilgrimage to Mecca, he was permitted by the Free French authorities to return to Damascus. There he became the main spokesman of a newly united and vigorous block, and in 1943, when the French had at length been prevailed upon to allow a return to constitutional life and elections were held, the block won another clear-cut victory and Kuwatly was elected President of the Republic.

During the next three critical years steadily increasing pressure by the block for the handing over of power was met with French evasions, procrastination, or downright refusal. The block leaders were encouraged by ever-growing popular support in Syria, by passive support in other Arab States, and by the sympathy of the British officials on the spot, although the British Government's official attitude was neutral and the British forces in Syria stood aloof. In such circumstances a clash was inevitable: it came in May, 1945, after months of increasingly acrimonious discussions, strikes, shooting in the outskirts of Damascus and elsewhere, and other signs of mounting disorder which redoubled in violence on receipt of a report that military reinforcements were being sent to Syria from recently liberated France.

The Syrian attitude became openly threatening, and the French authorities, believing that the only chance of maintaining a position for France in Syria was to crush the block, suddenly ordered a "cleaning-up operation" which took the form of a fierce bombardment of Damascus and other Syrian towns, and attacks on Syrian gendarmerie and caused serious loss of life. Kuwatly, who was ill in bed at the time, demanded British military intervention; and three days later, after urgent representations to General de Gaulle had been unsuccessful, the British Government ordered their troops in Syria to intervene and to confine the French forces to their barracks. Next year, after the question had been debated in the United Nations, an agreement was reached under which British and French forces were simultaneously withdrawn from the Levant; and the Syrians and Lebanese were left in undisputed control of their own territories.

Kuwatly's term of office as President was due to end in 1948 and the Constitution did not permit second terms. Counting on the prestige of his success in achieving independence and on the block's control of the Chamber, he contrived an alteration of the Constitution which would allow of his own reelection. It was a sad error of judgment: the Syrians, traditionally fickle, had already had enough of him and the block, and less than a year after his reelection he was unseated and exiled by the first of three successive military coups. He sought refuge with Ibn Saud, for whom he had conceived a strong admiration, and later lived in Egypt. In 1954, after the third military dictator had himself been overthrown, Kuwatly returned to Damascus, and in 1955, in a popular revulsion of feeling against military dictatorships, he was reelected president. By then, however, his powers were beginning to fail; his mentor, Ibn Saud, was dead; and he was unable to stem or deflect the political currents which, three years later, swept Syria into union with Nasser's Egypt. Nasser accorded him the title of "First Arab Citizen" and dismissed him to a limbo from which he never returned.

SIR GEORGE WILKINSON

Sir George Wilkinson, Bt., K.C.V.O., Lord Mayor of London during the 1940-41 air bombardment, died on Tuesday at the age of 81.

Born on July 20, 1885, he was the eldest son of George Henry Wilkinson and entered his father's paper mills at the age of 18. At 37 he retired from all personal business activities, and thereafter—in an entirely honorary capacity—devoted himself to civic and charitable causes of many kinds. It is difficult to mention in detail all the good works



both in the City and in other spheres to which Wilkinson set his hand and fostered, but they were both numerous and catholic.

He was created a Baronet in 1941,

Mr Shukry Kuwatly.
The Times (London, England),Saturday, Jul 01, 1967; pg. 12; Issue 56982.

Category: Obituaries

Gale Document Number:CS203648225

BATTLE FLARES UP NEAR SUEZ CANAL

Gun positions silenced, Israel claims

Israel and Egyptian forces exchanged fire in the Suez Canal area yesterday afternoon after a battle through the night. Israel claimed that the Egyptians had crossed the canal. Cairo said the Israelis were advancing on Port Fuad, on the east bank, which was still held by Egypt.

In the Gaza Strip 12 refugees have been killed by Israel soldiers guarding United Nations stores against looters.

The Israel Cabinet has decided that Arabs who fled across the Jordan after the war began may return to their homes on the west bank. The refugees have until August 10 to take advantage of the offer.

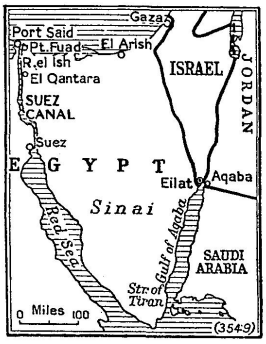
LOOTERS SHOT DEAD AT UN STORES

From MICHAEL WOLFERS, Jerusalem, July 2

A military spokesman reported here that Israel troops had battled in Sinai with Egyptian forces who moved across the Suez Canal at two points.

An Egyptian company with half-track vehicles moved into Sinai about 14 miles south of Port Said on the eastern side of the canal, and Israel soldiers spotted a further movement in two boats across the canal.

Skirmishing broke out early this morning when the Israel Army reported that seven men were



wounded. The Egyptians later fired mortar shells across the canal from gun positions which were then silenced, said the military spokesman.

The intention of the military adventure is not clear. The strength of the Egyptian forces was insufficient for it to have been a serious attempt to expel Israel from her Sinai positions. The speculation here is that the Egyptians may have been seeking to discourage close cooperation between the Arabs in the occupied territory and the Jews, or to increase the strain on Israel troops by harassment.

Both sides have complained to the United Nations about the Suez incident, which they claim to be a breach of the cease-fire agreement.

Mr. John Reddaway, deputy commissioner general of U.N.R.W.A. (the United Nations Relief and Works Agency), said here today that the situation in the Gaza strip was "well under control".

Grenade thrown

His comment came after an incident at Rafa—in which 12 refugees were killed by fire from Israel soldiers who were guarding ammunition stores of the United Nations Emergency Force and food supplies to which U.N.R.W.A. is being allowed access. The troops opened fire after some 150 looters broke through a fence and ignored warning shots fired over their heads.

An Army spokesman said that a looter threw a hand-grenade at a guard. The post had been strengthened after a request from U.N.R.W.A. for special measures to halt looting.

Battle Flares Up Near Suez Canal.
From MICHAEL WOLFERS

The Times (London, England),Monday, Jul 03, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 56983.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS17263843

'Egypt destroys tanks'

From STEWART HARRIS—Cairo, July 2

Six Israel tanks and three armoured cars were destroyed by United Arab Republic forces in engagements which began last night and seem to have ended this afternoon, according to a military spokesman in Cairo.

He denied that Egyptian troops had crossed to the east bank, saying: "Our forces have been concentrated there since the fighting started last month to defend Port Fuad."

The first announcement of the engagement came last night when a communiqué said that the Israelis had been engaged at Ras el Ish when they tried to advance from El Qantara in the direction of Port Fuad.

Nicholas Herbert writes from Beirut:— Whatever the origins of the clash, it comes at a time when the Arab world is still casting about for solutions to the grave problems raised by Israel's military victory.

According to reports from Khartum all Arab nations except Syria have agreed to attend a summit conference in Sudan from July 15 to 17.

There is no evidence to show what advice President Podgorny of Russia is giving to Syrian leaders at this crucial stage in Arab planning, but the inspired Damascus press mentioned defensive military capacity as one of the aims of Soviet assistance to Syria.

At a banquet in Damascus, Mr. Podgorny said that things would go against imperialist interests in spite of attempts to change the situation in the area.

'Egypt destroys tanks'.
From STEWART HARRIS

The Times (London, England),Monday, Jul 03, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 56983.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS17394915

Turning the lessons of Suez to good account

By Hugh Thomas

With a new Middle East crisis still unresolved, it is of course time to bury the hatchet, politically speaking, over the Suez crisis of 1956.

To be honest, the hatchet would have been buried a long time ago had it been generally known what it was made of. Had it been a bloody old Anglo-French blunt instrument wielded unsuccessfully at Egypt but missing the target, we should all have forgotten the wretched affair very quickly. But for a long time we were led to think in terms of a pain-killing, merciful policeman's hatchet; and then others said that on the contrary it was a remarkable, absolutely unique hatchet, forged by Israeli craftsmen at a suburb of Paris celebrated for porcelain, with English steel in some way involved in the handle.

It was the lingering uncertainty over this side of the matter that gave the Suez affair such continuing interest. Had Lord Avon had his way, the British would have absorbed a fundamentally false view of an event which, even if it is the more bizarre details which now stick in the memory, was of greater social and psychological importance for the country than the Conservative leaders of that time seemed to realize, or even realize now.

Mr. Anthony Nutting's book* is, as readers of *The Times* will be aware, personal and in places bitter. It is also disappointingly short. It is, however, vigorously written with far greater candour than most political memoirs. Mr. Nutting's colleagues are clearly depicted as men of flesh and blood, strong prejudices and weaknesses, and these portraits are no doubt very much more true to life than they are made to seem in most books of this sort, in which pasteboard characters perform herculean feats of understanding and political charity. The book is written by one who believes that he has had a great secret all these years and now shouts it at us in order to rid himself of the terrible burden; a man who, apparently destined for a great career in politics, threw it all up and now, having broken (as I suppose) with the Conservative Party, is in the unusual position of having nothing to lose by telling all, as he saw it; and he saw clearly that the notion that Lord Avon played the policeman in 1956 was false. This is stated here passionately, it is true, but also, for the first time, authoritatively by a British Minister; and so *No End of a Lesson*, though it may not have been the intention of its author nor will it be the interpretation of his old colleagues, really enables the memory of Suez to be finally absorbed and therefore politically comprehended, if not forgotten.

THE PATRON DENOUNCED

The relevatory side of this book, however, ranks almost second to its bitter denunciation of Lord Avon. This naturally has special poignance since Lord Avon was for so long Mr. Nutting's patron. Their careers indeed once seemed similar—sons of baronets, both lost two brothers in wars against Germany, both Etonians. Mr. Nutting spent a time as Lord Avon's private secretary in the Foreign Office. Entering Parliament at 25, president of the Young Conservatives, Lord Avon's natural choice in 1951 for Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office and then Minister of State, Mr. Nutting seemed Lord Avon's political heir, the diplomatic man of the future as Lord Avon had been 20 years before. Mr. Nutting's manners and inflexions of voice even seemed to resemble those of Lord Avon. So this book breathes the tragic air of old friendships broken, old confidences betrayed.

Mr. Nutting begins with the dismissal of General Glubb by King Husain. This event, he says, was attributed to Nasser by Lord Avon, who was therefore convinced that his previous conciliatory policy towards Egypt had been mistaken. This is not the first time this has been said; indeed Lord Avon refers to it, in *Full Circle*. But Mr. Nutting reports also an hysterical Prime Minister demanding Nasser's destruction and

*Anthony Nutting: *No End of a Lesson —the story of Suez*, published today by Constable, price 25s.



Mr. Anthony Nutting.

suggests that this "metamorphosis of a statesman" as he puts it, was due to sickness. This amounts to a plea of diminished responsibility on behalf of Lord Avon. I wonder whether this plea is really justified or whether on the contrary the political difficulties of 1956 did not themselves wear down the Prime Minister's health.

Mr. Nutting's alternative policy to Lord Avon's for the Middle East in 1956 does not, however, read very well now: "We should do all in our power . . . (to ensure) that Iraq, Jordan and the Persian Gulf sheikdoms were built up with British aid and British arms"; concessions on frontiers should be obtained from Israel. This argues that there was good reason for Israel's suspicions in the winter of 1955-56 that the Foreign Office, if not Lord Avon, were thinking of some territorial adjustment at her expense. This part of Mr. Nutting's book suggests that its author (who does not seem to have very strong views before Suez about the Arab world) was keeping to the conventional, fundamentally pro-Arab line of the Foreign Office which Lord Avon, having backed it for so long, was now abandoning.

HOPING FOR A PRETEXT

For several months after Glubb's dismissal, Mr. Nutting says, Lord Avon was hoping for a pretex" to move in on Egypt". But he was opposed by Mr. Selwyn Lloyd, Mr. Nutting and the Foreign Office. Nasser's nationalization of the Canal Company gave the opportunity and July finds Lord Avon insisting, for the first time, that Israel should have restored to her her rights of passage through the Canal.

Mr. Nutting was away sick (as were many of the protagonists in this affair, from time to time, except the robust Mr. Lloyd, whose colds were diplomatic) in August, 1956. He returned to find matters out of his control. There is the engaging revelation that Lord Avon contemplated the revival of the famous idea of 1940 for a total merger of Britain and France. In early October Mr. Lloyd had to go to the United Nations and Mr. Nutting took his place at some critical meetings. Mr. Nutting confirms the decisive importance, in making up the Cabinet's mind to use force, of Mr. Foster Dulles's press conference of October 2. There follows the *pièce de resistance* of the book, Chapter 10, about the secret meeting at Chequers at which Monsieur Gazier and General Challe suggested to Lord Avon the elaborate plan for employing the Israel desire to fight Egypt as a pretext for Anglo-French intervention in the Canal Zone.

That this meeting occurred has been known before, but Mr. Nutting here describes it in detail, obviously making use of notes made at the time. Mr. Nutting was critical of the plan, as were, he says, some Foreign Office officials and apparently at first Mr. Lloyd. But to no avail. A "small meeting of Ministers" accepted the idea on October 16, further details were fixed up in France, and the Cabinet in full approved it on October 24 and 25. On October 17 meantime Mr. Nutting told Mr. Lloyd that he would resign if these arrangements were carried through. Mr. Nutting did not see Lord Avon again after October 16 till the war had begun, but Mr. Lloyd kept him in touch with what was going on, including the fact of the famous meeting with Ben-Gurion in France (which he seems to suggest was on October 22, not 23) and also of Mr. Lloyd's continuing doubts.

It is satisfactory that Mr. Nutting should confirm baldly that the Cabinet were fully informed, for it has been previously suggested that Lord Avon and a few Ministers acted on their own. Conservatives may regard this revelation as a mixed blessing, but it is better that this should be shown to be the case than to let it go on being said that the Cabinet system had quite broken down and that a possibly sick Prime Minister was able to take the country to war without telling anyone. Mr. Nutting also suggests that one reason why the Prime Minister did not take into consideration many of his usual advisers was that he could not trust "the anti-Jewish spleen of you people in the F.O.".

Some of the details seem open to question. Thus the idea of using Israel to justify Anglo-French action perhaps came up before Mr. Nutting says. There must be some doubt as to whether Ben Gurion really blew cold on the whole idea at the last minute; surely this was a ruse to excite the enthusiasm of the British. Mr. Nutting suggests that there was no written "agreement" between Britain, France and Israel whereas there was in fact a "declaration of intent". And then it surely becomes less and less possible to believe that the negotiations between Fawzi and Mr. Lloyd could have led to a final settlement of the Canal on acceptable terms: the letter from Hammarskjöld to Fawzi of October 24, printed here as an Appendix, is after all a remarkably opaque document.

There are also several points about Mr. Nutting's own actions which still invite speculation: believing as he did, surely he should have refused to make the vigorous speech in favour of Government policy that he read on behalf of Lord Salisbury at the Conservative Party Conference at Llandudno? Why was he reluctant to risk breaking up the Government and discourage some of his colleagues from resigning with him? It is still difficult to understand why Mr. Nutting refused to make his resignation speech, even after reading Mr. Macmillan's advice to him, nor entirely clear why he gave up his constituency. To go off silently into the night, as Mr. Nutting did, has dignity, but would it not have been better to have spoken out there and then in hot blood, perhaps in general terms on the use of force (to which Mr. Nutting was clearly opposed), if he felt that he could not have done so in respect of what he calls the "conspiracy"?

MEN IN THE DARK

Finally, Mr. Nutting uses strong language to describe his ex-colleagues, who are represented as villains of the deepest dye. But this is not really the impression he leaves. Instead we see a group of men grappling in the dark, at the mercy of inaccurate information (such as that offered by the Suez Canal Company), misunderstanding what the Americans said on the telephone, betrayed by false historical analogies, trying hard to avoid telling lies, but not quite succeeding, hoping that their secret dealings will never be known. *Tout casse sauf l'amitié*, mutters Lord Avon while breaking off relations with Mr. Nutting forever. "I . . . have no advice to offer", says Mr. Lloyd, as he loyally backs Lord Avon over the brink.

It is said that there will still be a debate in the House of Commons on this matter, but it is hard to see what use such an event can be except perhaps to register disapproval. There are, however, other general points that can now be discussed; and of these the most worthwhile for the House of Commons surely is whether they can work out some means whereby they can more effectively elicit information from governments, and not be put off by what Mr. Nutting candidly refers to as "the old parliamentary dodge of answering the question that was not asked".

TurNIng the lessons of Suez to good account.
By Hugh Thomas

The Times (London, England),Monday, Jul 03, 1967; pg. 9; Issue 56983.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS152530147

RUSSIAN SUPPORT FOR NON-ALIGNED VIEW

FROM OUR UNITED NATIONS CORRESPONDENT—
New York, July 3

The United Nations General Assembly today adjourned its Middle East debate until tomorrow, still moving ponderously towards a vote on the five resolutions before it.

The non-aligned nations led by Yugoslavia produced some moderations of wording, but not of substance, in their resolution, which calls on Israel to withdraw to armistice lines, asks the Secretary-General to ensure compliance and appoint a personal representative, and hands over to the Security Council all other questions involved. The Soviet Union is now supporting this resolution.

Mr. Arthur Goldberg, the chief United States delegate, said that his country would vote for a Latin American resolution which linked a withdrawal of Israel forces and an ending of the state of belligerency proclaimed by the Arabs.

10 priorities

He propounded 10 priorities for peace: disengagement of armed forces without delay; recognition of the right to maintain separate national status; recognition of territorial integrity and independence; protection of vital security interests; refraining by all sides from threats of war; right of navigation and free passage of international waterways; solution of the refugee problem; priority for economic and social development over the arms race; an international guarantee of the holy places; and international support and assistance towards these ends.

The United States could not vote for the non-aligned resolution, he said, because it called for one fundamental action, withdrawal, and disregarded "the persistent claim of some members of this organization of the right to destroy another" The absence of recognition of the right of national existence was at the very bottom of the trouble in the Middle East.

Mr. Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, jeered at Mr. Eban, the Israel Foreign Minister, and said that Russia would vote for the Yugoslav-Indian "non-aligned" resolution making withdrawal a first and separate condition for any settlement.

One would think, he said, that Israel expected to be praised for its second aggression in ten years, and was "waiting for a prize for bringing such joy to the world".

The whole point

Mr. Gromyko said that the withdrawal of forces and the liquidation of the other effects of the Israel agression was the whole point of the special session.

The United States resolution, he said, had been imperialistic through and through, offering a package deal and putting the aggressor on a level with his victims.

He complained of Israel's "Göbbels propaganda" at the Soviet Union, which had laboured so heroically against Fascism. If Tel Aviv was not stultified by militarism and Israel did not want to cut off the branch on which it was sitting, if Israel really wanted peace, it must change its ways. Withdrawal was the first essential and a point of principle.

Occupation money

JERUSALEM, July 3.—Israel is to print occupation currency for all three zones now controlled by her troops, it was reported here today.

Dinars are to be used for the Jordan territory, and pounds for the Gaza Strip and the Syrian hills. The date of issue has not been announced.—*Agence France Presse.*

Pakistan demand on Israel

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

RAWALPINDI, JULY 3

President Ayub has again appealed to the big powers to persuade Israel to vacate Arab areas occupied during the fighting.

In a broadcast he said: "It is the duty of all the big powers to compel Israel to withdraw to its old frontiers."

Recounting his efforts for the Arab cause, he added: "What has happened in the Middle East is a great tragedy for all of us." The President appealed to his countrymen for a united effort "to crush the evil of Israel which is raising its head".

Sudanese in Sinai battle

KHARTUM, July 3. — Sudanese troops took part in repelling an Israel attack at Qantara on the Suez Canal two days ago, Mr. Hassan Mahgoub, acting Defence Minister, said today. The Sudanese suffered no casualties or losses in the battle, the Minister added.

A contingent of Sudanese troops went to Egypt after the Arab-Israel war last month.—*Reuter.*

Wounded return to Jordan

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

AMMAN, JULY 3

A Red Cross aircraft today repatriated 23 wounded prisoners of war to Jordan from Israel. They were taken to hospital immediately on arrival in Amman from Lydda.

The International Red Cross delegation said there were still three Jordan prisoners in Israel. They would be flown to Amman when they were sufficiently well to travel.

Glassboro visit

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

WASHINGTON, JULY 3

Fired by the "Glassboro spirit", 100 residents of the New Jersey small town which played host to the recent Soviet-American summit, are planning to leave for a visit to Russia on July 14.

STRASBOURG.—A new four-lane viaduct named after Sir Winston Churchill has been opened here.



Maltese stamps commemorati (left) and that of St. Paul. The during his voyage to Rome, given hospitality

Russian Support For Non-Aligned View.
FROM OUR UNITED NATIONS CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Jul 04, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 56984.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67595492

EGYPT'S DEVELOPMENT BUDGET SLASHED

Effect of losses from the war

From STEWART HARRIS, Cairo, July 3

The budget for this year's development programme in Egypt will be only £E250m. (£208m.) which is £E100m. less than in 1965-66 and 1966-67, the first two years in Egypt's second five-year plan.

In the first five-year plan Egypt managed to average £E300m. yearly on development, so the big drop for the year which began last Saturday must be enormously disappointing for a country with so much poverty and a rapidly increasing population. The figures were given to me today by Dr. Kaissouny, who returned to the Cabinet two weeks ago in President Nasser's new Government.

We were sitting in the study of his home in Heliopolis. He is a big, impressive man but gentle and good-humoured in the Egyptian way. For 12 years, apart from a break which began last September and ended on June 19, he has been the strongest single influence on the Egyptian economy.

Educated during the war at the London School of Economics, Dr. Kaissouny became Professor of Commerce at Cairo University. Then he entered the Government after several years with the Central Bank and International Bank.

Closing of Canal

Last night President Nasser presided at a meeting which considered the general budget, the foreign exchange budget and the development budget. They will be published in about a week and today Dr. Kaissouny told me all he could about them—"remembering Dalton", he said with a smile.

He said that all unnecessary expenditure had been cancelled to keep development expenditure as high as possible, but obviously the country was going to be affected by such things as the closing of the Suez Canal.

However, this year's development expenditure would still represent 13 per cent of the gross national product, and would probably produce a rate of growth of over 4 per cent.

"We are trying to cut down on services rather than industries or agriculture. We may build fewer dwellings and add classrooms to existing schools rather than build new schools. There will be fewer consumer goods for the people", said Dr. Kaissouny. "You see, the trouble is we place our dignity above material considerations."

The United Arab Republic has already received much help, especially from Arab countries who have given $100m. (£36m.) since the cease-fire, according to Dr. Kaissouny. He agreed that Egypt is losing about $35m (about £12,500,000) monthly in canal dues, tourism and petroleum, and he accepted the figure of £E40,500,000 as the value of gold reserves in Cairo.

My information is that all foreign Government Treasury Bills have recently been liquidated and that assets in foreign banks total about £E14m. (£11m.) but Dr. Kaissouny could not for the moment confirm these figures. As for loans, Egypt, according to Dr. Kaissouny, was repaying the International Monetary Fund at the rate of $3,500,000 a month (about £1,250,000) and he hoped when people were calmer to begin talks for a new loan. "We shall do our utmost to meet western block debts but I hope creditor countries will realize it is also to their advantage to keep the United Arab Republic economy going at a high speed", he said.

East block aid

Dr. Kaissouny digressed to speak in general terms. "The Middle East is an important area for the world, you know. I hope there will be a settlement one day." His wife is English-born, his father was a brigadier, one of his five children is a parachute troops officer.

Since the cease-fire, the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, east Germany, Yugoslavia and Poland have indicated willingness to develop bilateral trade agreements with Egypt, and Dr. Kaissouny added: "We will rely more and more on financing development programmes with east block countries."

"What about this year's cotton crop?" I asked. "Cotton and textiles are usually worth about £E190m. (£152m.) yearly in export income. I believe you have been worried about leaf worm attacks."

Egypt's total foreign currency earnings are only about £E420m. (£336m.) so the cotton crop is vital. Dr. Kaissouny said the present worm attack was under control. If the August attack was also frustrated he expected a normal crop. "We picked off the worms by hand and it didn't cost us any foreign exchange. It was also more effective than spraying."

It would not have been fair in the present climate to ask Dr. Kaissouny about trade prospects with the United Kingdom, but private inquiries show that no general instructions have yet been given by the Government forbidding trade with Britain. Egypt went short of wheat for some months and foreign exchange has already been allocated for necessary imported wheat.

Even if no more oil is discovered revenue from petroleum should reach £E100m. by 1970. By 1968 Egypt should be a net exporter of oil, with an increasing annual surplus.

Gen Dayan tells Arabs to stay

ALLENBY BRIDGE, July 3.—General Moshe Dayan, the Israel Defence Minister, today spent more than an hour in an attempt to dissuade Arabs from the west bank from crossing the rickety bridge over the Jordan to become refugees on the east bank.

He spoke fluent Arabic with the groups who were waiting at the river bank. Moving from lorry to lorry in a convoy of vehicles piled high with household belongings and furniture, he took special pains with the middle-aged and the elderly.

The Arabs recognized him, though he replaced his habitual eye-patch with dark glasses. When many told him they wanted to find a wife or family sent over after fighting broke out and that they meant to bring them home now, General Dayan replied that it would be better to stay at home and have their relatives returned with the help of the Red Cross.—*Reuter.*

Egypt's Development Budget Slashed.
STEWART HARRIS

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Jul 04, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 56984.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68381924

Libyan oil workers strike

From NICHOLAS HERBERT

BEIRUT, JULY 3

Libya's oil workers called a general strike today to frustrate their Government's plan for resumed production. The new Government had announced earlier that pumping would be resumed, but that the embargo on supplies to Britain and the United States would remain in force.

Although this announcement had been preceded by a careful press campaign pointing out that Libya was losing more than £500,000 a day, it appears to have been too much for the Libyan oil workers' union.

This may have been because of uncertainty about shipments to west Germany, which has become in Arab eyes the third-ranking villain among western countries and is an important purchaser of Libyan oil. There has also been pressure for a ban on British and American tankers.

The Baghdad conference which, meeting on the eve of the war, laid down rules for the oil boycott, did not name the black sheep individually, and Arab Governments have, therefore, had to make up their own lists. This has helped to accentuate differences between governments, which are looking anxiously at their balance sheets, and unions, which tend to gaze more fixedly at Cairo.

Grain cargo delay

It has taken Moroccan dock workers three days, for example, to agree to load on to an American vessel 3,000 tons of American wheat destined for the relief of Palestine refugees.

Austerity measures have already been introduced in Iraq and budgetary revisions are afoot in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, but in several instances union pressure has prevented a swift return to normal. Egypt today cancelled the celebration of the fifteenth anniversary of the revolution, at the end of July, so that the money could be diverted to the military effort.

On the other hand, while Saudi Arabia points out that it has lost £11m. and Libya says the embargo on Britain and the United States alone will cost it £50m. a year, those who favour full use of the oil weapon are equally dissatisfied.

In Iraq, where production is now confined to the needs of Turkey and France, a return to a total ban on exports is widely supported. In Damascus and Beirut nationalization is seen by some oil commentators as the only answer to the ability of the "oil cartels" to supply Britain and the United States from other sources.

Dr. Shafiq al Akhras, the editor of a Syrian economic weekly magazine, says collective nationalization is possible because many other countries from east and west would be ready to become partners in exploiting Arab oil. He cites as precedents an agreement between France and Saudi Arabia, concluded recently, and a new formula embodied in Iran's agreement with the Soviet Union.

Summit meeting

The Arab summit conference, if it takes place on July 15 as proposed, will certainly have this issue high on the agenda but agreement will be difficult. However imperfect, the boycott is at present a mainstay of the Arabs' effort to regain what they lost in last month's war. Presumably the boycott was, therefore, among the "practical steps to liquidate the results of the Israel aggression" which were discussed by President Podgorny of the Soviet Union and the Syrian leaders in Damascus, according to a statement issued this afternoon.

President Podgorny has now arrived in Iraq, where at the airport he said the Soviet Union was the Arabs' friend, especially in times of stress, and he believed the Arabs had felt the Soviet Union's genuine desire to liquidate the aggression.

There has been no indication yet about the real substance of his talks in the Middle East, which began last month in Cairo, but they are presumably the prelude to a decision by the Soviet leadership on its future relations with the Arab world. Indications from Moscow that political strings may be attached to future offers of military aid will probably bother Syria less than Egypt, which has always tried to avoid this, or Iraq, which has exhibited a tendency to drift to the right.

Our Tripoli Correspondent writes:—

Britain and the United States have agreed to discuss a programme with Libya for the closing of military bases and the withdrawal of troops, according to a statement by the Libyan Government today. Committees are to meet soon "to achieve this national aim".

Libyan oil workers strike.
NICHOLAS HERBERT

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Jul 04, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 56984.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68775140

Britain acts to meet growing oil shortage

The developing oil crisis entered a new phase yesterday when the Government introduced a petrol rationing Bill. Intended merely as a contingency measure, to give powers should the need arise, this move nonetheless reflects the growing recognition that the Suez Canal will not be opened to traffic quickly.

Forced to take a longer term view, the Government has taken its first move to bring consumption into balance with supply. The new strike in Libya and, the continuing troubles in Biafra have confirmed the gravity of the shortage facing Britain. However, the way has been cleared for American companies to cooperate in supplying west Europe.

Petrol Bill a sign of concern

By JOHN PRICE

The Government's decision to introduce a petrol rationing Bill in the Commons today is a further sign that concern is growing at official levels on the present state of the country's supply position.

Although the Ministry of Power emphasizes that the move is entirely "a precautionary one" at this stage, the alarming situation in Nigeria and Libya must, inevitably have influenced the Government's action.

Since the announcement, last week, of increases in the price of petrol and all petroleum products, it was assumed by the industry—and by the public in general—that supply positions were satisfactory at least for another month. This new move by the Government, although not decisive in itself, must indicate that the Government has received some unfavourable reports about the supply position within the past few days.

The seriousness of the supply position in both Libya and Nigeria, with further significant developments since the weekend, could undoubtedly be the key to the rationing question. Between them, these two states produce nearly half of the crude oil coming to Britain and a complete curtailment of these supplies does not now seem a complete impossibility.

Yesterday morning the Libyan Government ordered resumption of exports to France, Italy, Turkey and Greece. Immediately the oil workers' union called a general strike in protest, possibly because of uncertainty about shipments to west Germany. Both west Germany and Italy supply oil to Britain, mainly through the independent outlets.

The Nigerian situation continues to deteriorate. Reliable reports suggest that payments have been made by the oil companies operating in Nigeria to the secessionist state of Biafra. There is, however, no news of reaction to this move from the Federal Government which, over the weekend, repeated its threat of a total blockade on crude shipments

It is felt within the oil industry that if payments to Biafra are confirmed, then the most likely step by the Federal Government would not be to use force against the breakaway state but to stop ships leaving the two major ports in Biafra-Port Harcourt and Bonny.

If supplies should be stopped by the Federal Government, the consequences would be grave for our supplies. Libya's embargo on oil to Britain coupled with a blockade on Nigeria could prove a disastrous coincidence.

However, the fact that the Government will now be fully prepared for all eventualities regarding the crisis means that any form of rationing will not be introduced for at least six weeks or so.

Industry is confident that it will be exempt from any rationing system in all but the direst emergency. British Oxygen said that if it is rationed, the whole of industry will suffer. Deliveries to 250,000 points are made entirely by a fleet of 2,000 road vehicles. Harold Beaumont, chairman of G.U.S. Transport, said that, during Suez, his 10,000 vehicles had kept up deliveries from stores and could do the same again.

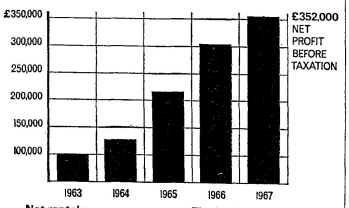
Should rationing appear imminent, the Road Haulage Association would approach the Government on behalf of its 18,000 members and stress the importance of giving them adequate fuel. In the early stages of Suez they were allocated a small basic amount, and it was not until customers complained vociferously that reasonable supplementary allowances were granted, enabling the 46,000 hauliers in the country to take goods normally carried by firms' own fleets.



Mr. F. E. Cleary MBE, FRICS, FAI reports

Continued profitable expansion and another record year for

Haslemere Estates



Net rental revenue rose by £90,000 to £535,000

Trading profits increased by £30,000 to £152,000

Net profit Before tax £352,000 *(£304,000)*

Final dividend 5½%, making total of 10% against 9%

Prospects for 1967/68 Net rental revenue should rise by £100,000. Trading profits could be as good as 1966/7. Net profit should cover

Industry counts oil costs

By GEORGE PULAY, City Editor

The additional cost to British industry resulting from the 2d a gallon oil surcharge will be formidable. Few companies will be more affected than the big chemical companies whose consumption of oil both as fuel and raw material has been growing apace.

In the case of Imperial Chemical Industries the extra cost is estimated at "several million pounds a year". It would be surprising if the figure were less than £10m. Nearly 30 per cent of I.C.I.'s raw material needs are oil-based.

This is a lower proportion than, say, the big German chemical companies, where about 60 per cent of the raw materials are oil-based. It shows that ICI, even after the huge build-up on the petrochemical side, is still more diversified in the traditional chemical products.

Courtaulds uses large quantities of oil, but mostly as feedstock. Several of its chemical factories are substantial users of fuel oil and, like everyone else, transport costs are necessarily affected.

The extent of the chemical industry's dependence on oil cannot be minimized; whether nylon or terylene; detergents, lacquers, synthetic rubber and nitrogenous fertilizers, they are all based on petrochemicals.

Britain's paper makers are also being severely hit. The extra cost to the industry is put at £1,340,000 a year.

All clear for U S fuel plan

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

WASHINGTON, JULY 3

The oil emergency plan drawn up by the 21 United States oil companies comprising the Foreign Petroleum Supply Committee and the Interior Department has been fully cleared for action. The Office of Emergency Planning announced today its consent to the scheme thus completing the round of formal approvals.

The way is now clear for the 21 companies to sit down to the details of the plan, which at present is merely a legal framework providing for the pooling of oil supplies and transportation facilities throughout the world. The immediate concern is shipping. "There is enough oil capacity in the Western Hemisphere to meet any shortages in Europe or elsewhere", Administration officials confirmed today.

Ship insurance to Middle East cut

The War Risks Rating Committee of the Institute of London Underwriters has cut Middle East rates back to levels ruling before the Arab-Israeli conflict.

All voyages to Israel direct are now 2s. 6d. on £100 value against 5s. previously. All voyages to or from or transhipment Egypt, Jordan, and Syria are 2s. 6d. against 5s. Exceptionally, any voyages via Suez are still rated at 5s.—*Reuter.*

Britain acts to meet growing oil shortage.
By JOHN PRICE

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Jul 04, 1967; pg. 21; Issue 56984.

Category: Business and Finance

Gale Document Number:CS352546020

JORDAN APPEALS FOR ARAB REALISM

Threats against Israel deplored

From NICHOLAS HERBERT—Amman, July 5

Mr. Saad Jumaa, the Jordan Prime Minister, today called for a realistic new Arab attitude towards Israel, but said that Jordan would sacrifice the last drop of its blood to regain the west bank of the River Jordan. He emphasized the need for an Arab summit to confirm the new policy, and rejected the notion that the Palestine problem could be solved by the great powers.

The Prime Minister criticized the Arab commando raids into Israel as being ineffective while giving the enemy an excuse to attack first.

He complained that Mr. Ahmed Shukairy, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, had alienated world opinion by immoderate threats to kill or deport Israel Jews, and he recalled that the Soviet Union was among the first to recognize the state of Israel.

Much of this appears to be Jordan reaction to the failure of the United Nations General Assembly to reach any agreement, and it sounds very similar to what Jordan was saying before King Husain signed the defence agreement with Egypt in the week before the war. Whether it will commend itself any more than it did then to the leaders in Cairo or Damascus remains to be seen, but the reference to Russia's recognition of Israel is certainly unfashionable.

What Mr. Jumaa seemed to be saying was that with the failure of the United Nations to produce an answer, it was up to the Arabs to unite and tackle the matter themselves.

His recommendations for a new policy were, perhaps intentionally, less clear, but he was adamant about the need to get back the west bank. This is hardly surprising, for the economic experts here agree that what is now left of Jordan is not a viable entity.

Mr. Jumaa indicated that an Israel attempt to set up a separate Palestine Government on the west bank had failed because people there retained faith in the unity of both banks of the Jordan.

The enemy was trying to persuade property owners in Jerusalem to sell, Mr. Jumaa said, but Jordan nationalists had warned people that if they sold the property or land they would be assassinated. At one point Mr. Jumaa said the Arabs should abandon the misleading policy they had been following for the past 19 years.

This combined with his criticism of commandos and propagandists, could be taken as a suggestion that the *fait accompli* of Israel should be recognized. It could equally mean much less, but Mr. Jumaa noted that President Johnson and Mr. Kosygin had agreed on Israel's right to existence.

On the other hand, he noted approvingly a military suggestion that the countries bordering Israel must prepare for war with the assistance of the oil-owning states behind them. But for the lack of air cover in last month's war, he said, Jordan troops would have reached Tel Aviv.

If this is hardly encouraging language for countries that are being asked to resupply the Jordan armed forces, it is perhaps necessary in view of the casualty figures revealed by Mr. Jumaa today. He said there were 6,094 dead or missing, 762 wounded and 463 captured. Many of the prisoners were also wounded, he said, and this showed that the Army had fought bravely.

It is understood, however, that some 5,500 of those listed as killed or missing were in the second category, and the number of wounded would tend to confirm this.

Such figures do little to restore morale in a country already suffering an agonizing influx of refugees, and Mr. Jumaa's advice to them gave cold comfort. He appealed to all of them to return to the west bank even if this meant that they suffered under Israel domination. Israel could not rule areas three times the size of itself and would some day have to withdraw.

Food shortage

People have been leaving because of Jewish pressure, insults and humiliation, but the Prime Minister asked them to return home to frustrate enemy plans and make the reannexation of the west bank to Jordan easier.

Today a reduced flow of refugees clambered through the wreckage of the Allenby Bridge to asylum on the east bank. Bowed down with bed springs, sewing machines and cooking stoves, they scrambled and stumbled up the steep river bank. All doubted whether any refugee would return after July 10, when they are to be allowed to do so on certain conditions.

"I think they would prefer to die here instead of going back", said one English-speaking girl who complained that food was short and Israel soldiers rude. She quoted some of them as saying: "Go to your King and let him feed you."

She also complained that in her village near Ramallah the Arabs had still not been permitted to bury their dead.

Whitehall hope of compromise

FROM OUR DIPLOMATIC STAFF

Reports that the Prime Minister advised King Husain when he was in London last week to patch up his differences with the Israelis in direct negotiation caused some perturbation in Whitehall yesterday. It was firmly denied that any such advice had been offered, and in the Foreign Office's view at least it would have been both unrealistic and unhelpful to do so.

It would be unrealistic because King Husain (like President Nasser and the Syrian Government) would take the decision to negotiate with Israel only if all else failed and for much more pressing reasons than a word from Downing Street; unhelpful, because if Britain were to offer such advice, or be thought to be offering such advice, our slightly improved relations with the Arabs would again reach crisis point. If King Husain were thought to be about to come to terms with the enemy, he might well lose his throne.

Jordan Appeals For Arab Realism.
From NICHOLAS HERBERT-Amman, July 5

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Jul 06, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 56986.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67857638

Search for agreement at UN

From our United Nations Correspondent

NEW YORK, JULY 5

Latin American and Scandinavian diplomatists were labouring today to find some kind of resolution which might command a two-thirds majority in the special session of the General Assembly on the Middle East.

Some delegates feel that even a general statement deploring war and returning specific issues to the Security Council would be better than nothing. Others have marginal hopes for a request to the Secretary-General to appoint a representative, without prescribing what he would do.

The appointment of a representative was one of the points in the non-aligned resolution voted down last night. Britain and several other countries which voted against the resolution favour this particular step. The Arabs are understood to have accepted it only as part of the resolution as a whole, which demanded Israel withdrawal of troops without an end to the state of belligerency they have maintained since 1948.

Russian diplomacy is apparently at a standstill. The special session has not been ready to accept any resolution which implied that Israel alone was to blame for the fighting—especially after the report by U Thant, the Secretary-General, that the fundamental occasion for the fighting was Egypt's closing of the Strait of Tiran after ordering out the United Nations Emergency Force.

Tass, the Soviet news agency, said that the non-aligned resolution failed because of "unprecedented pressure exerted by the United States on the Latin Americans and all other countries dependent in some way on the United States", and said that Britain had cooperated in "cynical and varied pressure". This echoed accusations in the Assembly by various Arab speakers.

Hopes not high

At present, Russia seems, in the United Nations at least, diplomatically unable to vote for anything which the Arabs will not accept. The United States, which opposed the Assembly session, has no initiative to offer. Even the Americans were astonished when the Soviet delegation insisted last night on having a vote paragraph by paragraph on their original resolution, and mustering no more than 45 votes for any of them, like a man putting a bruised head under a hammer.

Dr. Pazhwak (Afghanistan), president of the Assembly, spent most of the day in consultations while vice-presidents took the chair. He said last night that a meeting called for later today would "finalize" the emergency session with further explanations of votes from a further dozen countries. Only a few optimists hope for anything more.

BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA.—Strict water rationing has been introduced here because the local waterworks cannot keep up with the demands of Bogota's two million inhabitants.

Search for agreement at UN.
From our United Nations Correspondent

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Jul 06, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 56986.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68250854

Russians cashing in on tanker boom

While the Russians continue to aid Egypt and indirectly hinder the reopening of the Suez Canal they are cashing in on the present tanker boom caused by its closure.

Reports were circulating in the tanker market yesterday of an unidentified 45,000-ton Russian Flag oiler being chartered by Japan Lines for five consecutive voyages from the Persian Gulf to Japan.

For this business, which will keep the tanker employed for something in the region of seven months, the charterers conceded Intrascale plus 40 per cent (about 67s. per ton of freight, compared with around 20s. paid prior to the outbreak of the Middle East war).

Market sources say that tankers of other communist block countries, such as Bulgaria and Rumania, have also appeared on the market, but have subsequently disappeared, presumably fixed privately. However, yesterday's booking by Japan Lines was the first to be made public.

The market otherwise was more or less featureless. Shell pursued their tonnage programme from the Persian Gulf, booking seven oilers of 150,000 tons for U.K. and Continental discharge, and Tokyo Tankers arranged for four oilers of 305,000 tons to travel from the Persian Gulf to Japan.

Russians cashing in on tanker boom.
The Times (London, England),Friday, Jul 07, 1967; pg. 17; Issue 56987.

Category: Business and Finance

Gale Document Number:CS285568231

Saudi call to resume oil supplies

FROM NICHOLAS HERBERT

AMMAN, JULY 7

Saudi Arabia called today for an end to the Arab oil boycott on Britain and America. Now that it was established that there was no evidence of British and American aircraft helping Israel in last month's war, there was no reason to continue the ban on exporting oil to the two companies, a Government statement said.

The statement pointed out that the Arab world was not the only source of oil, and withholding of oil exports would jeopardize the future of Arab interests. The Soviet Union was attempting to supply the west with oil, although it professed to be the friend of the Arabs.

The Saudi Minister of Oil has already said that the 24-day stoppage of exports has cost Saudi Arabia £11m. and that the ban on shipments to Britain and the United States is costing at least £125,000 a day.

Today's Saudi statement indicated that Riyadh had decided to take the lead in pressing home this view. In several oil exporting countries unions substantially supported from Cairo have been preventing shipment of oil to Britain and the United States, although their Governments might have wished to resume full export.

King returns

King Husain arrived back in Jordan today after his two-week visit to the United States and Europe. Thousands of chanting Jordanians welcomed him in the streets, but there was no indication that he had received promises of military assistance in London and Washington.

With much publicized Soviet arms supplies being sent to Egypt, the pressure is on the King to show that his traditional sources are as prodigal, but the widespread impression in the west that he connived in the suggestion of Anglo-American support for Israel has been working against him.

Saudi call to resume oil supplies.
NICHOLAS HERBERT

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Jul 08, 1967; pg. 3; Issue 56988.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS51342568

Russian ships at Port Said today

Moscow, July 9.—Ships of a Soviet Navy squadron are to arrive in Port Said and Alexandria tomorrow for a visit by invitation of the Government of the United Arab Republic, Tass reports.—*Agence France Presse.*

Accusations over Sinai flare-up

FROM MICHAEL WOLFERS

TEL AVIV, JULY 9

Heavy fighting in the Suez Canal area this weekend has led to a renewed round of accusations between Israel and Egypt. Military sources here are at pains to indicate that the Egyptians opened fire on Israel positions at Ras el Aish, east of Suez, to open a battle in which Israel had five soldiers killed and 31 wounded. They claim the destruction of one Egyptian MiG 21 aircraft in an air combat south of Port Said between four MiGs and two Israel Mirage fighter aircraft.

The area is marshy and difficult to reach from Israel's main positions in Sinai. Indications here are that Israel has little to gain militarily from engagements in this area and that Egyptian forces are battling more for a political impact on the Security Council than for military gains.

CAIRO, July 9.—Colonel Boumedienne, the Algerian Prime Minister, and President Nasser of Egypt tonight began talks on the Middle East crisis.—*Reuter.*

U.N. peace team proposed, and picture, page 4. Leading article, page 9.

Russian ships at Port Said today.
FROM MICGAEL WOLFERS

The Times (London, England),Monday, Jul 10, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 56989.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS17525994



Israel soldiers at a captured anti-aircraft gun site beside El Firdan bridge, south of El Qantara, keep watch on Egyptian positions on the opposite side of the Suez Canal.

Encouraging refugees' return

FROM NICHOLAS HERBERT

AMMAN, JULY 9

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency (U.N.R.W.A.), which is helping Jordan to deal with nearly 200,000 refugees who have flooded over from Israel since the war, hopes that a quarter of them can be persuaded to return to the west bank in the month beginning tomorrow.

It has been impossible to make any accurate count of those who might be ready to go back, especially as Israel has given no advance indication of detailed arrangements for a return.

Much will depend, for example, on whether the refugees feel confident that they will be able to continue receiving remittances from relatives in Arab countries, and whether the food situation on the west bank shows signs of improving. Generally it is expected that the wealthier refugees will be more tempted to return than the poor, but U.N.R.W.A. would particularly like to make use of the large Aqabat Jaber camp at Jericho, where every facility is already laid on, while some of the 10 new camps on the Jordan side of the river offer Spartan conditions.

The Jordan Government is particularly hard pressed to administer aid for the huge number of refugees, and serious overcrowding has occurred at the more accessible camp sites. The Government has said it wants the refugees to go back, and within the limits of humanity has tried not to make life too comfortable on this side of the river. It has received large quantities of relief goods from abroad, but its biggest problem is to organize their distribution.

Britain's £850,000

The British Relief Fund for Jordan, under the joint chairmanship of Mr. Philip Adams, and the Ambassador in Amman, and Mr. Basri Alaeddin, Under-Secretary at the Jordan Ministry of Social Affairs, has set up a committee to ensure that the British contributions are well spent. Major Derek Cooper, the committee's liaison and coordination officer, who has had experience of relief work in several countries since the Hungarian uprising of 1956, said today he aimed at avoiding the wastage of money which had occurred in the past.

It is estimated that the British Government and people have so far contributed more than £850,000 for relief work in the area. Virtually all of it has been earmarked for intensive development schemes in Amman, Aqaba, and elsewhere. In view of the large amount of assistance in kind which is now coming in, the British fund may decide to hold back some of the money until worth while long-term schemes can be worked out.

A consignment from Britain of 1,000 stoves, 1,000 sets of cutlery, and a large number of tents is expected soon.

SUEZ OBSERVERS PROPOSED

Russia's sanctions call

From INNIS MACBEATH—New York, July 9

The Security Council resumed its emergency session on the Suez breaches of the cease-fire in the Middle East tonight with guarded optimism in the lobbies. Scandinavian and other delegates who had been coaxing things in favour of U Thant's request for United Nations observers on the cease-fire line between Israel and Egypt said that there would be a consensus, if not an actual resolution, in favour of it.

They maintained their prediction after Dr. Fedorenko (Soviet Union) had led off the session with another attack on Israel. He accused Israel of "crude and premeditated" breach of the cease-fire.

Tel Aviv enjoyed the support of Washington, London, Bonn and others, he went on, and after referring to the Dominican Republic, Vietnam, the Congo and Cyprus, he said that if Israel did not withdraw from Arab territories the council should order sanctions, which the Soviet Union would take part in implementing.

It was not clear whether this was a preface, as strong speeches sometimes have been, to abstention when it came to the matter at issue.

Immediate task

Lord Caradon, the British delegate, said that the public speeches might have led them to despair but "we are not always judged by our public speeches and I hope this may be some comfort to the distinguished representative of the Soviet Union". The General Assembly had laid a groundwork on which the Security Council could build. The council must move to the firmer ground of making the cease-fire effective and restoring a United Nations presence. "Whenever the United Nations has been given half a chance it has served us all very well."

Mr. Goldberg, the United States delegate, said that when Dr. Federenko spoke of aggression, brutality and cynicism he seemed to be on familiar ground. The United States believed that an overall solution for the problems of the area was essential, but the immediate task was to deal with the individual question of last week's fighting. The council must call for a scrupulous honouring of the cease-fire and endorse the Secretary-General's wise request for observers.

U Thant intervened to say that he had heard from his Chief of Staff, General Odd Bull, that to meet requirements at Suez he would need an additional 25 observers as soon as possible, but until they arrived he could send in some of his present staff at once.

Israel is reported to be more in favour of the proposal than the United Arab Republic. The Egyptian Government is apparently reluctant to permit a United Nations presence because it was the Egyptians who demanded the withdrawal of the last one, leading to the disastrous campaign which pushed their forces back out of Sinai.

Mr. El Kony, the Egyptian delegate, said the fighting yesterday began when Israel forces launched an attack on U.A.R. troops stationed south of Port Fuad on the eastern bank of the Suez Canal—a surviving Egyptian garrison in territory mostly held by the Israelis—and indiscriminately shelled heavily populated areas of Port Said. Egyptian batteries, he said, returned the fire

Mr. Rafael, of Israel, said that Egyptian batteries had fired at Israel forces stationed at Ras el Aish, nine miles south of Port Said, and then at others in El Qantara. An Egyptian armoured column then began moving south along the west bank of the Canal, firing at Israel troops on the east bank.

Outside the United Nations the status of Jerusalem is causing a growing difference of opinion in the United States which, until the apparent intention of Israel to ignore the Assembly resolution of last Tuesday, had been overwhelmingly pro-Israel.

Cardinal Cushing, the Archbishop of Boston and best-known of the Irish-American Roman Catholic leaders, writes in *The Pilot* that nothing less than a truly international enclave can satisfy the conscience of the world in regard to the Holy Places. "There should be no place here", he says, "for either politics or power, for violence or for strife, for destruction or for death. It should be a place of peace."

Rabbi Marc Tannenbaum, director of inter-religious affairs of the American Jewish Committee, said at a meeting in New York that Christians must face "the profound historical, religious, cultural and liturgical meaning of the land of Israel and of Jerusalem to the Jewish people".

Mixing freely

The Jewish view was sharply expressed by Dr. William Rosenblum in a sermon in New York yesterday, when he called the Assembly resolution a face-saving manoeuvre to offset the failure of the Soviet and Arab blocks to label Israel an aggressor. He said there was no reason, politically or spiritually, why Israel should not have control of all Jerusalem and thus prevent the Old City from becoming a base from which the Jordanians would attempt to destroy their neighbours.

Under Israel administration the city might become a centre for the world's three great religions which worshipped one God and had their basis in Judaism, he said. Arabs and Jews today were mixing freely in both the old and new sectors of Jerusalem. Israel could be trusted not only to safeguard the shrines of all religions but to make pilgrimages easy for all who desired to make them in dignity and peace.

Suez Observers Proposed.
From INNIS MACBEATH-New York, July 9

The Times (London, England),Monday, Jul 10, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 56989.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67857642

OBSERVERS ARE NEEDED

There is little point in attempting to pass judgment on the origins of any breakdown in the Arab-Israel cease-fire until that cease-fire is properly policed. A cease-fire agreement between two contestants has nothing sacrosanct about it. It implies a readiness to take their dispute temporarily out of the military arena, but without adequate supervision it is likely to collapse if either side considers a breakdown would be to its advantage.

The outbreak of fighting along the Suez Canal at the weekend can be attributed to diametrically opposite causes, depending on whether one accepts Israel or Egyptian interpretations. The Egyptians claim that they suspect Israel of surreptitious attempts to gain control of both ends of the canal, and possibly both sides of its northern end. Israel would presumably achieve this by first stimulating some fighting in the area, and then using that fighting as legitimate provocation for a more conclusive operation. Israel, on the other hand, insists that Egypt initiated the fighting to maintain pressure on the Arab world to keep up the struggle against Israel, and to keep the issue on the agenda at the United Nations. The only real lesson to be learnt from the incident is that there are likely to be many more outbreaks, probably of greater severity, unless more adequate supervision of the cease-fire is arranged.

Some international supervision of the cease-fire now seems slightly more likely than it was last week. Then U THANT said that he had proposed United Nations supervision in the canal zone last Tuesday, but had received no reply from Israel or Egypt. Yesterday in Tel Aviv, however, officials said that Israel had agreed to the stationing of observers along the Israel-Syria cease-fire line, and that Israel might have no objection were the Security Council to decide that a similar deployment of United Nations men would serve a useful purpose in the canal zone.

Israel might still, under provocation, take further military steps to gain complete control of the Suez Canal. Egypt would then lose one of PRESIDENT NASSER'S strongest bargaining counters in the present situation. The closure of the canal does not affect Israel, but the economic consequences of Egypt's refusal to reopen it while Israel troops remain on the eastern bank will be felt by the West, and could lead to the West leaning more and more heavily on Israel in any subsequent negotiations over a settlement. The situation clearly suggests that international observers should be sent to Suez as a matter of urgency.

Observers Are Needed.
The Times (London, England),Monday, Jul 10, 1967; pg. 9; Issue 56989.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS151481578

Letters to the Editor

BRITISH FROM THE MIDDLE EAST

From Mr. Philip Goodhart, Conservative M.P. for Beckenham

Sir,—In the discussion about the needs of refugees in the Middle East very little has been said about the plight of the British citizens who have left Egypt, Syria and Jordan on the advice of the British Government. Over 1,000 British citizens were evacuated from Egypt alone.

Most of these British refugees have found shelter with friends or relatives, but a number have had to be accommodated at St. Anne's, an adequate but somewhat depressing Old People's Home outside Redhill. The staff of St. Anne's have worked hard to make the British refugees comfortable, but more assistance is needed for them and for many of the refugees who have been able to find their own accommodation.

These British subjects were allowed to take £4 in currency and 20 kg of clothing. On arrival in this country they received £3 in cash and some warm clothing from the Red Cross. In addition to board and lodging, most of those at Redhill receive 27s. a week pocket money, and are given small sums to help them look for employment and accommodation.

These British refugees need particular assistance in three ways.

Firstly, pocket money payments of 27s. a week are not adequate if one has to find one's feet in a new country. Surely as a country we could afford loans or grants of at least £100 to £200 per person to help the refugees meet the many expenses which this sudden uprooting has involved.

Secondly, some special help seems to be needed in finding jobs and accommodation, and thirdly, the Government must make plain that it accepts responsibility for the property of the refugees in the Middle East.

It seems this time that the Egyptian Government has not officially seized the property of the British citizens who have left, and so there may be problems in proving that they are responsible for it. On the other hand it is certain that much of the property that the British citizens have left behind has by now disappeared for good. So far the Government has remained notably silent about any long-term plans to help these British refugees.

They deserve a better deal.

Yours faithfully,

PHILIP GOODHART.

House of Commons, July 7.

Jordan's policy

From the Jordanian Ambassador

Sir,—On July 6 you interpreted certain parts of the statement made in Parliament by the Prime Minister of Jordan on July 5 as "a suggestion that the *fait accompli* of Israel should be recognized" although you added that it could mean much less.

In this respect, I would like to clarify my Government's policy by the following relevant excerpts from the Prime Minister's statement:

(1) "The Palestine problem is the problem of all the Arab States, and no one Arab country can unilaterally reach a solution to this problem.

(2) The Palestine problem is our problem and not Russia's, America's or Britain's. If we leave our problem a bargaining commodity in international circles, we would never be able to serve our cause constructively.

(3) The Jordanian entity is one indivisible unit, and the Western Bank is a sister twin of the Eastern Bank. We would never give up the holy unity that binds the two Banks."

It goes without saying that Jordan views itself as an integral part of the Arab World which would never recognize the "*fait accompli* of Israel".

Yours faithfully,

MIDHET JUMA, Ambassador.

Embassy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, 6 Upper Phillimore Gardens, W.8. July 7.

Jewish victims of war

From Eva, Lady Reading

Sir,—Natural compassion for the plight of Arab refugees in the Middle East should not blind us to the fact that tens of thousands of Jewish men, women, and children in the Arab lands are also innocent victims of war.

On the outbreak of hostilities on June 5 the Egyptian police carried out mass arrests of adult male Jews in Cairo and Alexandria. Jewish refugees, who have arrived in Italy, report many cases of mistreatment of prisoners, detained in gaols and camps. So far representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross, which responded to an appeal by the World Jewish Congress, have been unable to investigate conditions in Egyptian prisons and detention camps.

In Libya, widespread mob violence, resulting in loss of life and destruction of homes, compelled the Jewish population of some 6,000 to remain indoors for their own protection. A mass exodus has begun and is likely to continue until the last remnant of this ancient community has departed from Libya.

In Tunisia, the mob set fire to the principal synagogue in Tunis and sacked and looted Jewish shops, cafés, and other business premises. President Bourgiba has expressed his regrets to the Jewish community and energetic measures have been taken to restore order, but more than 1,500 Jews have left Tunisia in the past few weeks. Hundreds of Jews have also left Morocco after outbreaks of violence in Meknes.

In all, there are about 100,000 Jews still resident in Arab lands, all that are left of flourishing communities, numbering 750,000 souls, which had lived peacefully in once tolerant Moslem countries from time immemorial. Some 500,000 have found new homes and made new lives in Israel which gladly received them as it has all Jewish refugees from terror.

Yours faithfully,

EVA READING.

Flat 8, 30 Cadogan Place, S.W.1, July 7.

tinguished correspondents, that the Board of Trade will succeed in prohibiting the export of valuable historical material of any date before copies are first deposited in a British Library, and I hope this can be done before my father's papers are allowed to leave the country.

Yours, &c.,

KATHARINE GARVIN.

69 King Street, Cambridge, July 5.

SUPERSONIC BANGS

From Sir Alec Guinness

Sir,—Before we guinea-pigs have been experimented on and cowed by supersonic bangs, our windows possibly smashed, our home cracked and our animals put to flight, may we be told to whom we should complain if these things happen and from whom we can claim damages?

An aircraft flying at great height and tremendous speed is unlikely to be identified by the layman, even if spotted. Past experience leads me to believe that neither the R.A.F. nor the civil aviation authorities are aware of what aircraft are in the air at what time or place when there is a question of damage.

The only satisfaction a neighbour of mine received, when a wall collapsed after a supersonic bang, a few years ago, was the admonition, "You should be proud of what our boys are doing up there"—a piece of patriotism which failed to stir the heart of the insurance company.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

ALEC GUINNESS.

Kettlebrook Meadows, Steep Marsh, near Petersfield, Hampshire, July 7.

UNIVERSITIES AND SCHOOLS

From the Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of Bradford and others

Sir,—The letter from a number of Vice-Chancellors and Principals (June 3), emphasizing the dangers to academic standards of secondary school reorganization, might be thought to reflect the view of university teachers in general. May we, therefore, who also have experience of university teaching and administration, record our dissent?

Far from watching the process of secondary school reorganization with alarm, we welcome the active steps local authorities and the government are taking to bring secondary school organization into line with the needs of children as individuals and of society as a whole; indeed in our view these steps are overdue.

In the last 10 years many official reports, in particular the Crowther and Robbins reports, have underlined the tragic wastage of human ability caused, in part, by the over-rigid structure of our school system. Comprehensive reorganization is the crucial step needed to open up educational opportunities, particularly to working-class children of ability, as experience has already shown. Local authorities, in opting for one or other of the four main types of fully comprehensive systems set out in Circular 10/65, are carrying out plans which are in the interests of all our children. Similar developments are now taking place in many other parts of Europe.

As an increasing proportion of each age group stays on at school to 16, 17 and 18, in consequence not only of economic and social trends but of comprehensive reorganization itself, the nature of the sixth form will change. There is, in any case, a strongly voiced demand from the universities, strangely ignored in the Vice-Chancellors' letter, for a wide ranging education in the sixth form, and a reduction in the extreme forms of specialization unique to this country. In a country characterized by rapid change the main task of the schools is to promote flexibility and a readiness to go on learning.

While the country is engaged in a radical expansion and adaptation of its education system as a whole—and for good reasons—neither universities nor schools can expect to continue unchanged. The net result of opening up the system in the way now being planned will not, in our view, be a decline in academic standards; rather the discovery of new sources of talent among the young. The future success of the universities in part depends upon their capacity to encourage the expansion of opportunities in secondary education, opportunities from which they have everything to gain.

Yours faithfully,

E. G. EDWARDS, Vice-Chancellor and Principal, University of Bradford.
J. ALLANSON, Professor of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, University of Birmingham.
D. V. DONNISON, Professor of Social Administration, London School of Economics.
R. T. FLETCHER, Professor of Sociology, University of York.
BARBARA HARDY, Professor of English, Royal Holloway College, London.
CHRISTOPHER HILL, Master of Balliol College, Oxford.
RICHARD HOGGART, Professor of English, University of Birmingham.
G. K. HUNTER, Professor of English, University of Warwick.
TOM KAISER, Professor of Physics, University of Sheffield.
EDMUND R. LEACH, Provost of King's College, Cambridge.
JOHN MAYNARD SMITH, Professor and Dean of The School of Biological Sciences, University of Sussex.
ROBIN PEDLEY, Director of the Institute of Education, University of Exeter.
JOHN REX, Professor of Social Science, University of Durham.
BRIAN SIMON, Professor of Education, University of Leicester.
WILLIAM TAYLOR, Professor of Education, University of Bristol.
PETER TOWNSEND, Professor of Sociology, University of Essex.
PETER WORSLEY, Professor of Sociology, University of Manchester.
WYNNE-JONES, Professor of Chemistry and Pro Vice-Chancellor, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

July 7.

TENDING THE COUNTRY

From Sir Gordon Cox

British From The Middle East.
PHILIP GOODHART. House of Commons, July 7, MIDHET JUMA, Ambassador. Embassy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, 6 Upper Phillimore Gardens, W.8. July 7 and EVA READING. Flat 8, 30 Cadogan Place, S.W.1, July 7.

The Times (London, England),Monday, Jul 10, 1967; pg. 9; Issue 56989.

Category: Letters to the Editor

Gale Document Number:CS151612650



President Nasser embracing King Husain at Cairo airport yesterday when the King arrived for talks on Arab problems.

Russians 'ready to repel aggression'

Warships arrive in Egypt

From STEWART HARRIS, Cairo, July 10

A force of Soviet warships, including two guided missile carriers, two submarines, a destroyer, a cruiser, and landing craft, arrived at the Egyptian ports of Alexandria and Port Said today.

Rear-Admiral Igor Nikolayevitch Moloshov, the fleet commander, said on arrival: "We are ready to cooperate with your armed forces to repel any aggression."

The admiral, speaking in the governor of Alexandria's office, said that his force would be staying for a week on a friendly visit. While crossing the Mediterranean it had been shadowed by the United States Sixth Fleet until it was announced that it was visiting the United Arab Republic.

King Husain of Jordan arrived in Cairo by air from Amman today to begin talks with Colonel Boumedienne, the Algerian Prime Minister, who arrived yesterday, and President Nasser, who gave him a warm welcome at the airport. King Husain was last here on May 30 to sign a joint defence pact with the United Arab Republic. Now he comes as an ally anxious to promote a summit conference of all Arab countries.

Joint strategy

CAIRO, July 10.—President Nasser, King Husain and Colonel Boumedienne met here tonight to map out a joint strategy aimed at dislodging Israel from Arab territory seized in last month's six-day war.

The first round of the Arab leaders' meeting took place at the Kubbeh republican palace.

Colonel Boumedienne earlier conferred with the Syrian and Iraq Ambassadors in Cairo. It was later reported that he will fly to Damascus today for talks with Syrian officials.—*Reuter.*

King Husain in Cairo, page 4.

Pay dispute stops six papers

FROM OUR SCOTTISH CORRESPONDENT

GLASGOW, JULY 11

A wages dispute between printers and publishers has prevented the publication of six daily newspapers in Scotland today.

They are the *Scottish Daily Express*, the *Daily Record* and *The Glasgow Herald* in Glasgow; the *Scottish Daily Mail* and *The Scotsman* in Edinburgh and the *Press and Journal* in Aberdeen. The combined circulation of the six is normally just over 1,500,000 a day. The only daily newspaper not affected by the dispute is Dundee's *Courier and Advertiser*, whose staffs are generally non-union.

The properties have referred the dispute to the Ministry of Labour.

Journalists on one newspaper were told by their editor that pickets would probably be outside the premises later today. They should come into work as usual, however, as they were not involved.

Financial Times up to 8d

The Financial Times is to increase its price by 2d. to 8d. from Monday, July 17, the newspaper announces today.

'Boom' over city shakes hospital

BY A STAFF REPORTER

Delicate surgical instruments were put out of alignment at a leading brain surgery centre in the West Country yesterday after a heavy explosion, thought by many to be a sonic boom, over Bristol.

It rattled windows in the city and the police were flooded by complaints.

The hospital, Frenchay Hospital, Bristol, is to protest to the Ministry of Technology which has authorized tests with 1,000 m.p.h. Lightning fighters to check on public reaction to booms before the supersonic Concord is introduced.

But last night the Ministry was not saying if such a flight had, in fact, taken place over Bristol.

"If we were to confirm that a test had taken place then the object of the experiment would be destroyed. We want the complaints to be objective", a Ministry official said.

Send complaints

Dozens of people also complained to the British Aircraft Corporation at Filton and to Bristol

BRITON BEATEN IN HONGKONG

From DAVID BONAVIA—Hongkong, July 10

A uniformed British soldier was thrown to the ground and kicked unconscious by a Chinese mob in Kowloon today. A Chinese bus driver was injured in the same incident when the mob attacked his vehicle.

The attacks took place in one of the busiest areas of Kowloon near the Star Ferry concourse. The mob later dispersed after sticking up communist posters and marching into Central Kowloon.

A smaller mob besieged the headquarters of the Medical and Health Department. They demanded that the Government publish the cause of death of seven men killed during the recent disturbances (relatives have so far failed to claim the bodies).

Mass funeral

It appears that the communists are still trying to organize a mass funeral for the men who have been proclaimed martyrs.

The disturbances in Hongkong are rapidly becoming a face to face confrontation between hard core communist agitators and the

since the death of five policemen at the Chinese border last weekend. Today, the border situation was quiet, with Gurkhas still occupying fortified positions at the village of Shataukok.

HONGKONG, July 10.—Hundreds of pro-Peking Chinese attacked British and American sailors as they left waterfront bars early today. British and United States shore patrols rounded up the sailors and told them to return to their ships.

A tram driver stabbed to death during the night and a man aged 23 who died after being struck by a group of young men in Kowloon today brought the death toll in three days of clashes to 11.—*Reuter* and *Agence France Presse.*

Militia supported demonstrators

Mr. Bowden, the Commonwealth Secretary, said in the House of Commons yesterday that for the

Cairo to accept observers

FROM OUR UNITED NATIONS CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK, JULY 10

The United Arab Republic told U Thant, the Secretary-General, today that it would accept the stationing of United Nations observers on the west bank of the Suez Canal. Israel has not yet said whether it would accept observers on the east bank.

Both delegations yesterday signified their readiness to comply, but reports reaching here suggested that Israel was awaiting the outcome of a Cabinet meeting.

The Security Council today authorized U Thant to deploy observers on each side of the Suez Canal to oversee the cease-fire between Israel and the United Arab Republic.

It took nearly eight hours, including two long recesses and a delay of 90 minutes, before the council met, to reach agreement.

Leading article, page 9.

ON OTHER PAGES

Brian Crozier: Spain after Franco: Preparing to restore monarchy 9

Louis Heren: Washington gloom over Vietnam 8

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Russians 'ready to repel aggression'.
From STEWART HARRIS

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Jul 11, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 56990.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS17525995

TIMES PAST
THE TIMES
PRINTING HOUSE SQUARE, LONDON, E.C.4. TELEPHONE: 01-236 2000

TOO MANY WARS

A faint ray of light appears between Israel and Egypt. The Security Council has agreed—largely because it prudently avoided taking a vote on the matter—to place United Nations military observers on both sides of the cease-fire line near the Suez Canal. Nothing is certain yet. But even a slight hope in one area is to be welcomed when troops are moving and shots are being fired in so many parts of the world.

The news each day carries reports from seven active storm-centres. From Vietnam, still the biggest and most dangerous area of fighting, the list swings up to Hongkong; across to Aden and to Yemen; to Israel and her Arab enemies; and down to the two African countries, Nigeria and Congo, where it is hard at present to make anything out of the confusion. Seven areas of fighting are a lot for the world to support. True, only two of them, Vietnam and the Israel-Arab contest—or three, counting Yemen—can properly be called wars. All of them, however, need watching for their potential dangers; and the first thing to do is to establish whether they have anything like a common cause.

What is remarkable is that they almost all are concerned with the new countries and almost all are inspired by nationalism. Many Americans, it is true, are still convinced that Vietnam is an ideological crusade, but the Vietcong appeal is largely to straightforward patriotism. The Yemen fighting, being republican v. monarchist, has ideological overtones, but much of it is plain resistance to PRESIDENT NASSER'S ambitions. Nigeria and Congo are only two of the African states that have had upheavals and secessions, many of them arising from tribal clashes, in the past dozen years.

So far as any generalization can be made, it is that the nation-states of the southern half of the world—across Asia and Africa—are still painfully working out their shape and their identity after the collapse or withdrawal of the old imperial rule. The half-vacuum had to be filled too quickly. There are bound to be many more storms, clashes, and failures before most of the people can work their way through to some stability. In the process they will damage themselves and others, just as the English did in Plantagenet and Tudor times. There is the more reason for the western powers to have a common look at the problem so far as possible. In some areas, after the first wild anti-colonial fervour has subsided, they may even seek a common approach with Russia.

In some areas, such as Aden, Britain still has commitments which it must honour until the moment of independence at least. In Vietnam the Americans have pledged themselves, perhaps far too confidently, to bring about some stability before pulling their troops back. But elsewhere talking can begin earlier, and it is not too soon for the western powers and Russia to see whether they cannot agree to cut down arms deliveries to the Middle East and other areas. Russia has just seen her costly deliveries to the Arabs go up in smoke. If she resumes supplies on the former scale, the old competition will begin again, to nobody's profit. At the same time the western powers might look again at the proposal, which used to be a favourite of the Russians, for banning war propaganda. Such a ban could have curbed PRESIDENT NASSER'S excesses which did so much to provoke Israel.

On the whole, it seems, the western powers and Russia are gradually learning that it is not in their interest to intervene directly in much of the fighting in the world. If so, they are only re-learning an old lesson that was best expressed in CASTLEREAGH'S magnificent State Paper of 1820. It concerned the limitations of power and of state policy in a period of unrest and upheaval. Should the big states intervene? CASTLEREAGH recognized the social and political dangers facing them, but said that "the notion of revising, limiting, or regulating the course of such experiments, either by Foreign Council or by Foreign Force, would be as dangerous to avow, as it would be impossible to execute".

In modern terms, the powers have to look to their own safety, but be ready to tolerate some disorders in areas of less than vital concern, and above all abstain from stoking up the fires. By fits and starts, usually in moments of crisis, Russia and the United States seem to be asking whether the other would abide by such a self-denying ordinance. The many little wars, with all their risks of widening and involving others, show how necessary it is to nourish these small beginnings.

Too Many Wars.
The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Jul 11, 1967; pg. 9; Issue 56990.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS151219435

Iraq leader flies into Cairo

From STEWART HARRIS

CAIRO, JULY 11

King Husain of Jordan and Colonel Boumèdienne, the Algerian Prime Minister, left here today, the King for Amman and the colonel for Damascus.

They left silently, apart from friendly exchanges at the airport with President Nasser, who has been keeping his own counsel in public.

Talks went on earlier today after a long meeting last night and dinner at President Nasser's home. So ends one Arab summit and quite a big one in terms of quality.

As for the summit of all the Arab leaders, it seems no nearer tonight, and may be getting a little out of range. But those countries which really count appear to be as firm as ever.

Yesterday, for example, Colonel Tahar Zbiri, the Algerian Army Chief of Staff, visited Algerian and Egyptian troops in the front lines. Another visitor today was Mr. Jacob Malik, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, who was here last month with President Podgorny.

Soon after King Husain and Colonel Boumdienne left, President Arif of Iraq flew in, to be greeted by President Nasser.

Israel rejection of UN resolution

FROM OUR UNITED NATIONS CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK, JULY 11

Israel has refused to accept the terms of the United Nations resolution on Jerusalem. In a letter to U Thant, the Secretary-General, Dr. Abba Eban, the Foreign Minister, says that the term "annexation" used by the supporters of the General Assembly resolution last Tuesday is out of place.

"The measures adopted relate to the integration of Jerusalem in the administrative and municipal spheres", he writes, "and furnish a legal basis for the protection of the holy places in Jerusalem."

Dr. Eban recalls that Jordan had consistently refused any special arrangements for the holy places and had used the Old City to launch an armed attack.

Since June 7, he says, the entire city has experienced peace and unity.

The Secretariat today announced that Israel had accepted the stationing of United Nations observers on the Suez Canal cease-fire line.

Egyptian aircraft shot down

FROM MICHAEL WOLFERS

An Egyptian aircraft was shot down today by Israel anti-aircraft guns about seven miles east of El Qantara, near the Suez Canal, Israel Army sources said.

The Russian-made aircraft was one of two said to have crossed into Sinai and flown over Israel Army positions there. A military spokesman emphasized that the pilot was not seen to escape from the aircraft which fell into a marshy area.

This follows Egyptian accounts after an earlier incident when Egypt claimed that the pilot escaped by parachute from an aircraft said to have been destroyed by Israel fire.

U S concern over Soviet arms

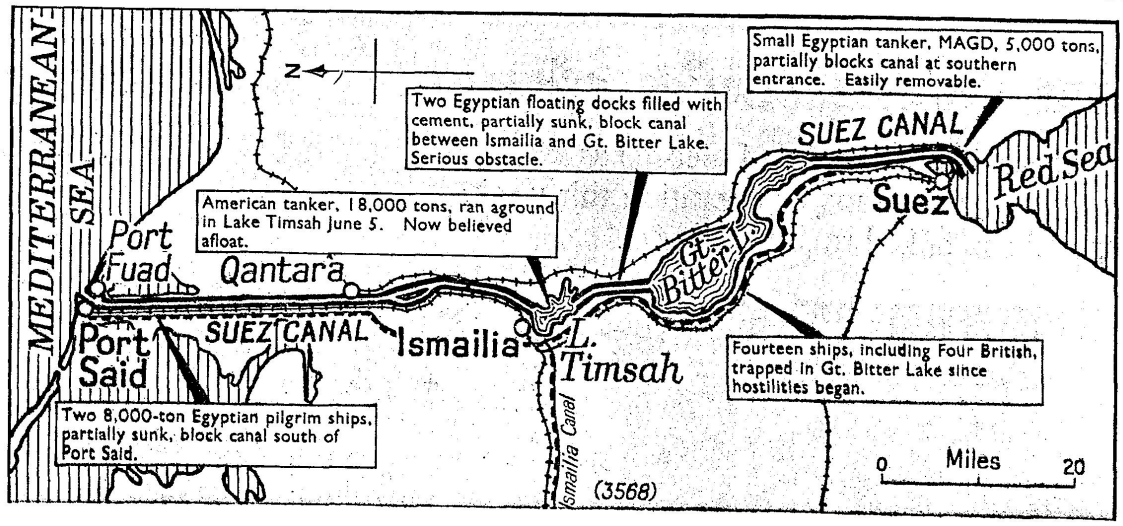
WASHINGTON, July 11.—The United States Government today expressed concern over Soviet shipments of aircraft and other arms to Egypt and other Middle East countries. The State Department made a new call for Soviet cooperation in limiting military shipments to the Middle East and avoiding a new arms race there. —*Reuter.*

Iraq leader flies into Cairo.
From STEWART HARRIS

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Jul 12, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 56991.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68513004



New York sets out to rival Hollywood

NEW YORK, JULY 11

Signor Michelangelo Antonioni spent an afternoon watching part of Mr. Andy Warhol's new enterprise in film, enigmatically titled "...." and said that he had no plans to make a film about America.

"It is too difficult, too complex", he said. "But I may use some part of this country as a locale. It will probably not be New York. New York is too vertical. The screen is horizontal, and one would have to chop off all those beautiful buildings".

Mr. Warhol's experiment may not have been too difficult, but it was certainly odd. The title came from the four-star ratings which the New York *Daily News* gives to films.

The method is superimposition, with three projectors focused on the screen depicting simultaneously, for example, a fat face munching, a party, and a couple making love. The sound track is embellished with electronic grunts and squawks.

Medium and message

As Mr. Marshall McLuhan, expounder of the creed that the medium is the message, is taking up a university post in New York next year, the city can fairly claim to be with it—and Mr. Warhol's film, which runs altogether to 25 hours, no doubt in some ways does represent the experience of the "plugged in" generation with so much to hear and so little relief from the gabble to think it over.

The Lindsay administration, which is trying to set up New York as a rival to Hollywood in the film world, may perhaps console itself for Signor Antonioni's judgment in the reflection that the wildest California ventures eventually seek the imprimatur of Manhattan. The



Signor Antonioni.

Centre Theatre Group in Los Angeles, now presenting a play uses theatre-in-the-round, film clips about Frederick the Great which and slides to juxtapose the assumed components of his complicated character and fasten on it the blame for a century of war, is automatically sounding New York for its next production when the run closes on August 6.

To the old guard, these experiments in the arts are so much ingenious rubbish. Yet a weekend in the life of New York sometimes makes one wonder how, if a youngster's bearings are not clearly set for him by the way he has been trained—most of them are, more or less, even here—he can possibly expect to make sense of things for himself.

An appeal court ruled last week that tenants protesting against rent increases must be debarred from hanging sheets out of the windows because they did not rent the outside of the building and were in fact trespassing. A group of 50 demonstrators waited outside the home of the president of Columbia University in a "mourn-in" for the buildings killed by Columbia's development plan.

A few blocks away in Harlem, Mr. Lindsay, the mayor, on a "quiet little walking tour", was preceded by a wedge of policemen forcing their way through a group of several hundred shouting for jobs. Mr. Lindsay smiled and waved, and had no comment afterwards. Mr. Jesse Gray, a rent strike leader, said at a press conference that although he did not speak to Mr. Lindsay, he now put him on notice to find 1,000 jobs by Monday.

Eastern Airlines announced that because its girls were uneasy in the Manhattan streets at night, they were moving their reservations centre to a New Jersey suburb. In a Long Island suburb, the police announced that they had found in a rented house the largest known "drug factory" in the metropolitan area, making mostly D.M.T., an hallucinogen somewhat less drastic that L.S.D.

Savage predators

The city unleashed 300,000 savage predators in Riverside Park—ladybirds—in an attempt to curb aphids and other pests without adding any more chemicals to the city's environment.

Mr. Arthur Lidov, an artist and illustrator, received a patent for a bicycle without spokes, with solid plastic wheels giving a tolerable ride on bearings, to make obsolete the nuisance of the puncturable tyre.

Vertiginous, declamatory, and distracting things are not, after all, so different as in other hectically overblown and various cities like London. Consolidated Edison, like the English electricity boards, have reached the stage when, they say, every new customer costs more than his custom is worth, and the individual citizen talks about "them" with disparagement quite as often as in England.

INNIS MACBEATH.

Where the Canal is blocked

The accompanying map shows for the first time the actual extent of the blockage of the Suez Canal.

There are two Egyptian pilgrim ships near the north entrance, south of Port Said; two floating docks filled with cement beween Ismailia and the Great Bitter Lake; and a small Egyptian tanker at the southern entrance at Suez.

The last-named, which could be moved quite easily and quickly, is the only obstacle south of the Great Bitter Lake, where 14 merchant ships, including four British, have been trapped for five weeks.

Serious obstruction

Now that Russia, whose supplies to North Vietnam are being delayed by the Cape diversion, is pressing Egypt to open the canal, and the United Nation observers are to move in, there are rising hopes that a move is imminent which would enable these ships to be heading for the Red Sea in a matter of hours, and thence home round the Cape.

Northward from the Great Bitter Lake the obstruction is more serious. The two cement-filled floating docks could take up to a month to shift, salvage experts estimate. The pilgrim ships at Port Said, on the other hand, would be relatively easy to get out.

Thus it appears that the canal could be fully operational within a month of Egypt's giving the word, and the trapped ships—except for the American tanker in Lake Timsah—could be free within a day or so.

The four British ships are Blue Funnel's Melampus, 8,500 tons, and Agapenor, 7,700 tons; Blue Star's Scottish Star, 10,000 tons, and Port Line's Port Invercargill, 8,800 tons. There are also three Swedish ships, two Polish, two German, one French, one Czechoslovak, and one Bulgarian.

MICHAEL BAILY

Where the Canal is blocked.
MICHAEL BAILY

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Jul 12, 1967; pg. 8; Issue 56991.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS134966508

THE MIDDLE EAST

From Lord Balfour of Inchrye

Sir,—It is in great dispute whether Israel or Egypt fired the first shot, and which is the aggressor.

Surely, the answer to the first is irrevelant and academic. The answer to the second is that, by actions over many months past, Egypt must be designated the aggressor.

Using the fourth weapon of modern warfare, the U.A.R. and allies have been carrying out an intensive long range bombardment of Israel. In days past, warfare was conducted with two weapons: the land weapon and the sea weapon. Then Air Power became the third. During World War II and since, the fourth weapon of propaganda has been worked up to a high state of effective efficiency. Radio and a controlled press, skilfully used, can sustain an offensive of selected lies and half-truths aimed at blackening the enemy and, on the home front, rousing supporters and softening doubters. The weapon is cheap to operate for as many hours as expert psychologists judge to be effective against the enemy and on the home front.

Accepting that propaganda is now the fourth weapon, Cairo has been the central point for a carefully planned strategic offensive against Israel. For months past Cairo has directed a barrage of threats of extinction of the State of Israel and exhortations to drive the Jews into the sea. This use of the fourth weapon by Egypt can only be judged as the first moves in what has since grown into a full scale shooting war.

Yours truly,
BALFOUR of INCHRYE.

End House, St. Mary Abbot's Place,
Kensington, W.8, July 9.

British refugees

From Lieutenant Colonel R. G. B. Innes

Sir,—Mr. Philip Goodhart (July 10) draws your attention to the plight of the British refugees who have returned from the Middle East during the past few weeks.

Many will not wish to return to the countries they have left and where they have lost all. They will seek work here and hope eventually to retire in the land they have always called "home". Soon these will be required to buy their National Insurance Stamps each week.

But, there will be many who, because they have not paid sufficient contributions, will never receive any old age pension. Furthermore, in the autumn they will have to pay an extra 2s. a week towards the increase in pension they will never see.

Mr. Goodhart suggests cash payments to these people now. Surely there is an equally great need to make it possible for Britons who return to this country under circumstances similar to these to draw at least a proportion of the pensions to which they have had to contribute?

Surely they deserve a better deal than this?

Yours faithfully,
R. G. B. INNES.

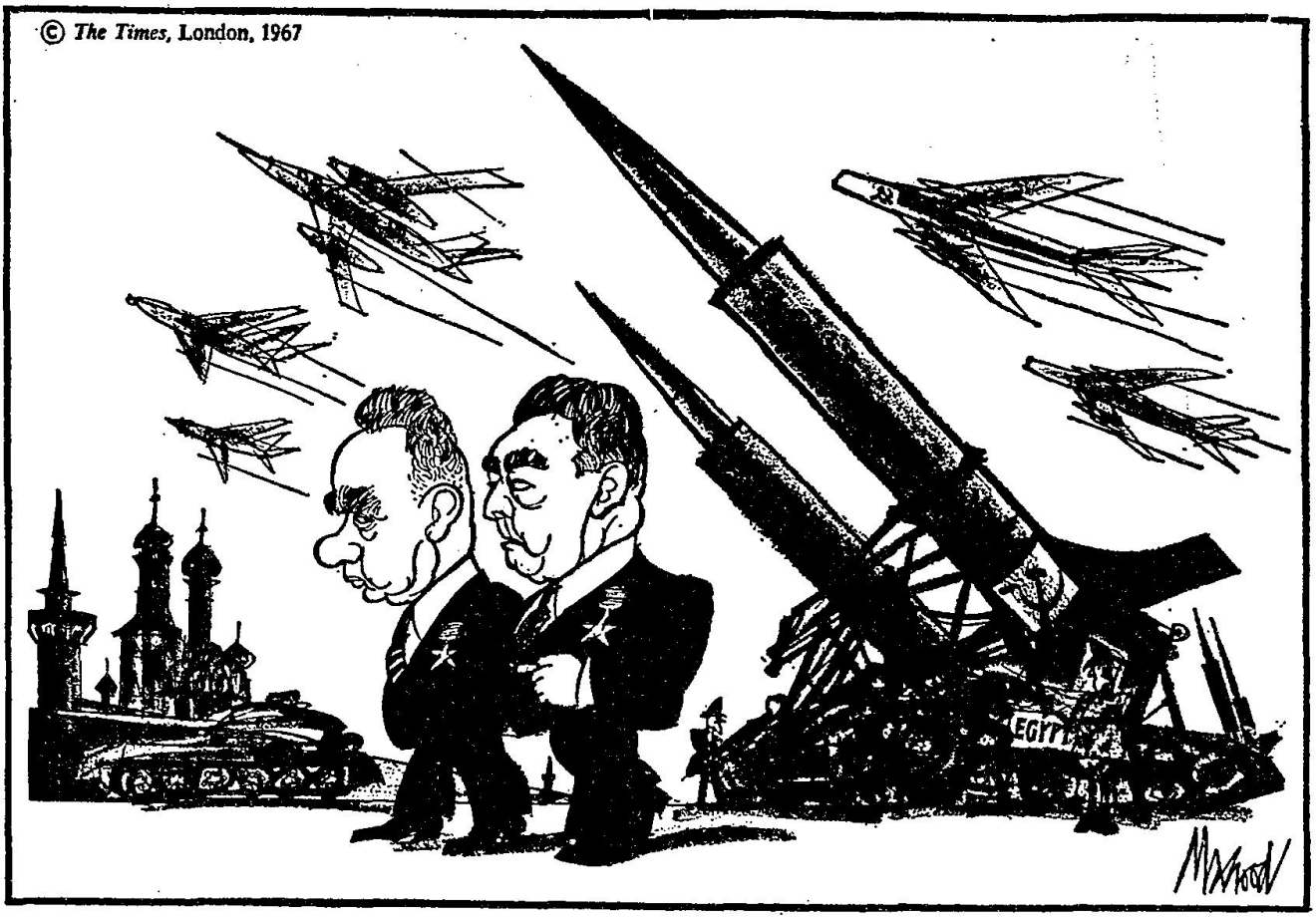
Pinkney Pound, Sherston, Malmesbury,
Wiltshire, July 10.

The Middle East.
BALFOUR of INCHRYE. End House. St. Mary Abbot's Place. Kensington. W.8. July 9 and R. G. B. INNES. Pinkney Pound, Sherston, Malmesbury. Wiltshire, July 10

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Jul 12, 1967; pg. 9; Issue 56991.

Category: Letters to the Editor

Gale Document Number:CS152005868



"I don't know what the Americans are worried about—any arms we supply to Egypt will eventually belong to Israel anyway."

Picture Gallery.
The Times (London, England),Thursday, Jul 13, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 56992.

Category: Picture Gallery

Gale Document Number:CS67726573

Boumédienne back in Egypt

From STEWART HARRIS—Cairo, July 12

Colonel Boumedienne, the Algerian leader, returned to Cairo today from Damascus, joining President Aref of Iraq in further talks with President Nasser. President Aref has with him Colonel Mahmoud Arim, commander of Iraq's Saladin Division in Jordan.

Yet another Arab leader will be coming to Cairo soon, Mr. Mahgoub, the Prime Minister of the Sudan.

"Where are we leading? And how?" is the title of an article by Youssef El Sebaie, editor-in-chief of the weekly *Akher* which appeared today. "If we can realize our aims, our just and peaceful aims, through peaceful channels, we shall not resort to fighting", wrote Mr. Sebaie, who ranks as a junior Minister.

His article suggests that President Nasser is trying to remind the world of his flexibility for the time being in a situation which could crystallize, making war inevitable, to use the words of Colonel Boumedienne, the Algerian leader.

Equal to enemy

Mr. Sebaie said the Arabs must admit they had been militarily overpowered in the recent encounter. The same thing might happen again if they did not equip themselves with a military potential at least the equal of the enemy's.

What Washington wants in Cairo will obviously affect the amount of its pressure on Israel. The immediate Soviet intentions are much better known to President Nasser, who saw Mr. Malik, Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister only yesterday.

As for the Soviet fleet, its visit was apparently arranged some months ago but whether it was really wanted by the President at this time is not known.

Russia sending more ships

CAIRO, July 12.—Two more warships from the Soviet Union's Mediterranean fleet are expected at Port Said, Soviet sources said here today. On Monday, 12 Soviet Navy units arrived at Alexandria and Port Said on an eight-day visit.

The Cairo daily *Al Gomhouria* today reported that Egyptian authorities were expected to invite the Soviet Navy to extend visits to Egyptian harbours and consider it an "open invitation".—*Agence France Presse.*

Pledge given by communists

VIENNA, July 12.—A summit meeting of east European communist leaders in Budapest today accused the United States, Israel and other "imperialist" circles of "provoking the peace forces of the whole world with their aggressive policies." Seven east European leaders pledged continued support for the Arab states.

The Czechoslovak news agency, Ceteka said that Mr. Kosygin, the Soviet Prime Minister, and Mr. Brezhnev, leader of the Soviet Communist party attended the meeting held yesterday and today. The agency did not say whether Rumania was represented.—*Reuter.*

Suez history call by 30 M.P.s

BY OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Mr. Grimond, Mr. Michael Foot, and Mr. Tom Driberg were among 30 M.P.s who moved in to support Mr. James Dickens when he tabled a motion in the Commons last night calling on "the new committee on histories to publish a full account of the Suez operation and its origins as soon as possible".

They argue that continuing ambiguity about British actions in 1956 could account for "the present baseless belief in the Middle East that there was British military participation in the Arab-Israel conflict of June, 1967".

Lord Alport sees Mr Smith

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

SALISBURY, JULY 12

Lord Alport leaves Salisbury tomorrow for Pretoria, where he is expected to spend two days before returning to London after his three-week visit to Rhodesia.

The British special envoy had what was probably his final meeting with Mr. Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, this afternoon. The talks lasted 90 minutes, during which Lord Alport reported his progress, and discussed with Mr. Smith his impressions of his visit, a Rhodesian Government spokesman said.

The Rhodesian Constitutional Association today condemned Brigadier Dunlop, the Minister of Transport, for his "morons and poltroons" statement yesterday, describing it as a "last ditch attempt" to prevent a settlement.

SALISBURY, July 12.—Michael Holman, aged 21, president of the students' unions of University College, Salisbury, and a feilow student, Harold Short, have been summoned to appear before a magistrate here on July 27, charged with contempt of court. The charge arises out of the publication of a poem, in a campus magazine, satirizing the High Court judgment of Mr. Justice Lewis in a case challenging the validity of Rhodesia's 1965 "independence" constitution.—*Agence France Presse.*

Boumedienne back in Egypt.
From STEWART HARRIS

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Jul 13, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 56992.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68644077

Letters to the Editor

EGYPT AND GAS ATTACKS IN YEMEN

From Colonel David Smiley

Sir,—In July, 1963, I wrote you a letter, which you published, drawing attention to the fact that the Egyptians were dropping poison gas bombs in the Yemen. It was not until May this year, nearly four years later, that the International Red Cross issued a statement that their delegates had evidence that poison gas was being used in the Yemen.

During May this year there were 13 bombing attacks with poison gas bombs and on June 5 and 6, the same days on which Egypt has complained to the United Nations of Israel air attacks on herself, Egyptian Ilyushin bombers were dropping poison gas bombs on the Yemeni villages of Immed and Boa. I have seen the most harrowing and gruesome photographs of the victims of one of these attacks taken by a British journalist who was present.

After their defeat by Israel, Egypt transferred most of her aircraft from the Yemen to Egypt, the Yemenis securing a respite of three weeks from bombing attacks. Now, however, the bombers have returned, and since July 1 bombing raids have been almost a daily occurrence, including a raid on July 2 on the village of Beni Saham when poison gas bombs were dropped killing 45 people, including women, children, and a great number of animals.

Last week Mr. Brown, the Foreign Secretary, stated in the House of Commons that he considered it was not for the United Kingdom to raise this matter at the United Nations, but that it should be raised by one of the Arab countries.

Saudi Arabia has, on more than one occasion, informed the United Nations of Egyptian poison gas attacks in the Yemen, but no action has resulted. It is most unlikely that any Arab country would now raise a subject to embarrass Egypt at a time when they are all demonstrating solidarity with Egypt against Israel.

I returned from the Yemen a few days ago, where I have seen the surviving victims of poison gas bombs. There I have been continually asked by Yemenis why the United Nations choose to ignore these attacks, while Israel and the United States are criticized for their attacks with conventional weapons.

The use of poison gas is forbidden under the Geneva Convention. One would have thought that the more voices raised at the United Nations in condemnation of this type of warfare, the more chance there would be of world opinion forcing Egypt to abandon this inhumane method of killing innocent Yemeni civilians.

Yours truly,

DAVID SMILEY.

Branxholme, Hawick, Roxburghshire.
July 11.

ened by the noise, but that they had gradually got used to it.

During the subsequent weeks I heard the sonic boom (for that, of course, was what it was) six or seven times more, each time in much the same circumstance. Of course it is true that one "gets used to it", in the sense that one does not jump as much the sixth or seventh time as one did the first. But no more than that. Each time it happens, one's concentration is broken and if, at the moment it comes, one is engaged on any delicate piece of work (as on a map), the work is likely to be spoiled. For the extraordinary thing (to the layman like myself) is that the noise comes, literally, out of the blue, and is *followed*—not preceded—by the sound of the aircraft that causes it.

Yours faithfully,

R. M. BRADFIELD.

Yarnton Manor, Yarnton, Oxfordshire
July 12.

State of nerves

From Mr. John Brewser

Sir,—For the last two days our home has been subjected to sonic boom tests which have worried my wife, distressed the dog, and rattled the fabric. As a former n.c.o. in the Royal Air Force I would rate the booms in question as being of average intensity—i.e., most unpleasant, and incidentally far louder than the blasting operations carried out at the local quarry, less than a mile from our front door.

Occasional sonic booms have been with us for a long time, but the presence of a series of such tests means that one is in a state of nerves—wondering when the next one will come, and, if it comes, will one drop the baby or merely the china?

Sooner or later, we shall be told that "the tests will have to be carried out at night, so that further public reaction can be gauged". I would venture to suggest that the most implacable "defender of progress" will find the resultant broken nights and public outcry hard to resist.

As well as the booms, the actions of the Ministry of Technology would seem to merit scrutiny. Their refusal to confirm or deny particular flights can only be likened to that of a schoolboy who runs along the street ringing the door bells hoping to avoid detection. The difficulties of obtaining compensation for annoyance or damage would in either case be immense.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN BREWSER.

11 Orchard Crescent, Dinas Powis, Glamorgan, July 12.

Time wasted

From Mr. E. Epson

Sir,—Mr. J. Carnegie (July 12) misunderstands the attitude of our Association in regard to the current boom tests.

The point at issue is not whether higher boom pressure could be obtained, which we

Egypt And Gas Attacks In Yemen.
DAVID SMILEY. Branxholme, Hawick, Roxburghshire. July 11

The Times (London, England),Friday, Jul 14, 1967; pg. 9; Issue 56993.

Category: Letters to the Editor

Gale Document Number:CS151612654

Mr Healey arranging talks in Europe on aircraft to replace swing-wing

MR. CARR (Mitcham, C.), initiating a debate on the effect of Government policies on the British aircraft industry and the Royal Air Force, moved:—

That this House condemns her Majesty's Government for having made a project, of which they had no firm assurance and which has now collapsed, the core both operationally and industrially of the long-term aircraft programme of this country.

For nearly three years, he said, they had been living in the golden age of planning. The Secretary of State for Defence had begun by destroying all British projects then in existence for future military aircraft. Having created a void, he started to fill it.

Distinct possibility

Anyone with contacts in France knew, and had known for a long time, of the risks and dangers which for many months had amounted almost to a probability that the French Government, for a combination of budgetary, military, and political reasons, would in the end not be able to proceed with the A.F.V.G.

MR. HEALEY, Secretary of State for Defence (Leeds, East, Lab.).—The French Government formally stated in public that its only reasons were budgetary. Is he now claiming that they were lying? If he is, will he have the guts to say so in this House ? (Ministerial cheers.)

MR. CARR.—To lie is to tell a complete untruth. It is quite normal for Government to limit the reasons they give in public statements.

I repeat—anybody who has any contacts in France knows that there are other reasons, budgetary reasons certainly, but other reasons as well which in combination always, or at least for a very long time, made cancellation of this project from France a distinct possibility, to put it mildly.

British-led project

The Opposition did not believe more F 111s should be purchased. Britain must maintain an independent defence capability; it was vital for Britain to produce their own aircraft and weapons.

There must be a new British-led project. If possible this should, for economic and political reasons, be a cooperative venture with Europe.

Britain would have to tackle the problem in a new way. They should produce their own military aircraft and in return for orders from European countries offer, if they wished, a share in both design and production work.

MR. MAYHEW (Woolwich, East, Lab.).—Does Mr. Carr mean that if international collaboration fails, then we should build this aircraft by ourselves and for ourselves ?

MR. CARR.—At this juncture it is the only thing we have open to do. To be successful, the project which we offer would have to be very closely designed to meet the future needs of our other European partners and other countries as well.

The best hope would be for an aircraft which was not an exact copy of the A.F.V.G. but one to replace the F 104 in the mid 1970s.

Airbus obsession

The Opposition supported the European airbus project and wanted to see it reach a successful conclusion.

Time was, however, almost running out because the United States was about to embark on producing a competitive aircraft. If the European airbus arrived too late, or at the wrong price, or with an uncompetitive performance, it would be the most disastrous white elephant of all time, from which the British aircraft industry would never recover.

There were dangerous signs that the Government were becoming as politically obsessed with the airbus as the Secretary of State had been with the A.F.V.G.

One of the Government's greatest handicaps (he said) is that they command neither confidence nor trust. This has only been made worse by the outrageous speech which the Minister of Technology recently made when the guest of the Society of British Aerospace Companies at their recent annual dinner.

There was nothing wrong with a Minister stating his policies firmly and toughly provided it was done in the right way and on the right occasion, which was usually in private.

What we cannot afford (he said) is the damage done by clever whizz-kids who mistake rudeness for the tough efficiency of an American tycoon.

He read some extracts from the speech and said the implication was that the industry had taken vast sums of money and did not use it in the national interest. (Opposition cheers.)

MR. BENN, Minister of Technology (Bristol, South-East, Lab.).—That is not true.

MR. CARR said the president, Mr. Hunt, had said with great restraint that what Mr. Benn had failed to point out was that over the same period the aircraft industry sold £2,000m. worth of aircraft, and engines in the export market against world competition. (Opposition cheers.)

Too costly and too late

MR. HEALEY, Secretary of State for Defence (Leeds, East, Lab.), said it was a pity Mr. Carr had laced his serious, constructive contribution with such massive triviality and humbug.

The Labour Government came into office in October, 1964, and found the R.A.F. dangerously under equipped for its tasks, with no prospect of having the aircraft it needed in time or at a price the country could afford. Comparing Britain's arsenal, not with the United States, Russia, or France, but with the arsenal available to Indonesia, Iraq, and Egypt, all three had the supersonic MiG 21 and the R.A.F. aircraft that would have had to pass them were all subsonic.

The Conservatives had argued that the cancellations of the TSR 2, the HS 681, and the P 1154 would be catastrophic for the industry. This was absolutely untrue. In 1966, the year after the cancellations, the output of the industry had been a record. The size of the aircraft industry had hardly changed, and there was no sign of a decrease.

The Labour Government had decided that the only answer was to cooperate with other countries on research and development. They had looked to Europe, and particularly France. The Conservatives had started the collaboration, but far too late.

The Government had developed extensive collaborative projects. There were good prospects for the sale of the Jaguar to other countries and a long production run was expected.

Meeting two needs

The only long-term need of the R.A.F. not provided for was that of a conventional strike reconnaissance aircraft. There was also the industrial problem as there was no new advanced military design in prospect for the 1970s.

The Government had decided to meet both needs by developing a swing-wing project with France. The project had been first envisaged by the Conservatives before the election in 1964, but they had never managed to do anything about it. The reason was that they were not prepared to adapt their operational requirements to those of the potential cooperator.

The Government were, and they were able to reach agreement in May, 1965. The agreement was welcomed by the Opposition in glowing terms. Indeed, they had tried to take credit for it themselves.

It was ludicrous to suggest that he pretended that the A.F.V.G. project had a certainty which did not exist. He had repeatedly pointed out, against protests from the Opposition, that both Britain and France had the right—and must have the right—to withdraw from the project if it no longer made sense to them. Any long-term project was bound to be uncertain.

The French Government had taken full responsibility for ending this collaborative project, and had made clear that it was for budgetary reasons alone.

'National' project denial

There has been a good deal of talk in London and Paris (he continued) suggesting that the French Government has cancelled the joint project in order to proceed with a national variable geometry aircraft based on the Dassault-Mirage II G.

I am authorized to say that there is no truth whatever in this suggestion. M. Messmer made it clear to me on many occasions in the past 12 months, and repeated in the most formal terms, that the French Government had no intention of developing this aircraft into an operational combat plane. At the moment it is a single-engined flying test-bed—with no operational capability whatever.

To turn it into a satisfactory operational aircraft which the French Air Force would accept would involve further heavy development expenditure of the same order as that which France would have incurred as her share of the A.F.V.G.

For the French Government to undertake such expenditure would be totally irrational, as well as being quite inconsistent with its declared position. I have in any case received the most binding undertaking that the French Government has no intention of doing this.

He would not disguise that the French decision caused serious disappointment, and faced Britain with some major problems which they would need some time to resolve.

On the other hand, the French were prepared to consider collaboration with Britain on an airbus. Further, they had agreed a supplemental memorandum on the Jaguar at the same meeting as that at which M. Messmer told them of the withdrawal.

It might be that the withdrawal would make collaboration on the airbus easier. Collaboration with other countries remained as sound as ever.

Britain now faced two questions: what was the size and nature of the gap in their military capability in the latter 1970s now that the A.F.V.G. could no longer be counted upon to replace the Vulcans in a tactical strike role; and could they retain the skills in airframe design they now possessed.

This was why they had provided sufficient funds for the B.A.C. design team at Walton to carry out a project study of a variable geometry aircraft; meanwhile, the Government was subjecting its operational requirement to the most stringent evaluation in the light of further development of defence policy, on which the Government would be publishing a White Paper next week.

They would wish to meet a need for further aircraft by collaboration with other countries, depending on how they and their Nato allies saw needs in Europe developing in the latter 1970s. Holland, Italy, and Germany were beginning to consider the nature of the situation when the American F 104 was no longer operational, and they were arranging discussions with them.

Another possibility would be to cooperate with the United States and the European countries together, perhaps on a swing-wing version of the Phantom.

Buying abroad

If the whole of this examination failed to reveal any reasonable prospect of producing an aircraft to meet their needs themselves, or in collaboration with others, there was little doubt that they could meet it economically in buying abroad.

But this would have far-reaching implications (he said), both for our aircraft industry and for other countries as well. The fact is that none of the alternatives to the A.F.V.G. which we can now foresee is without obvious difficulties. That is why the Government worked so hard to make the A.F.V.G. a success.

I wish the Opposition had chosen to face the full implications of the French withdrawal from this project with a full sense of the economic cost of an independent production for a purely national need.

MR. GOODHEW (St. Albans, C.) said the Secretary of State had failed to fulfil his prime responsibility for the defence and security of the country. It was the task of other members of the Cabinet to count the cost. The Secretary of State should be fighting to see that the Services were properly equipped, not finding ways of cutting the cost.

MR. DALYELL (West Lothian, Lab.) said that collaboration on the swing-wing aircraft with other countries in Europe was not a practical reality. It was not on.

He suspected that a proper analysis of the tasks in the 1970s would show that the R.A.F. would need transport aircraft, some support aircraft, and helicopters. But delivery was unlikely to be by aircraft; strike would be by missile. Producing a V.G. aircraft would be like trying to keep the cavalry in being. It would not be needed.

SIR IAN ORR-EWING (Hendon, North, C.) said the Government, having made a blunder, should say what would take the place of this paper aircraft. He would like it to be a British-led project of the A.F.V.G. type, but simpler and cheaper.

The American version of interdependence was, "You depend on us and we depend on nobody."

MR. RONALD ATKINS (Preston, North, Lab.) said he had supported the cancellation of the TSR 2 in the belief that the A.F.V.G. would be the core of Britain's aircraft programme. The French Government had shown a certain duplicity and Britain ought to be more careful in any future dealings with the French. If Britain could not get cooperation in Europe they ought to produce the aircraft themselves.

MR. LUBBOCK (Orpington, L.) said the alternatives before Britain were a variable geometry Phantom, of which the only advantage would be that they would continue to produce Spey engines; a purely British aircraft, which he suspected would turn out to be too expensive; collaboration with the Germans, who also had budgetary difficulties; and the possibility of buying more F 111s, the worst alternative of all.

Partnership

MR. PAGET (Northampton, Lab.) said he did not think the British aviation industry or any other had a future unless it was prepared to go into partnership with the Americans. Of course, we would be junior partners (he said), but we would be fully employed junior partners.

It was not only in the women's dress shop that the exclusive model was disproportionately expensive. At this point Britain ought to shop "off the shelf", look at their defence requirements, and buy them where they were available.

MR. POWELL (Wolverhampton, South-West, C.) said that by the autumn of last year ominous news about the A.F.V.G. was beginning to come from across the Channel. On October 25 M. Messmer indicated in the French Assembly that Franco-British plans to build a supersonic variable geometry aircraft might have to be shelved because of the cost.

The Opposition charged Mr. Healey with having deliberately and knowingly made a project which he was aware had no assurance, the core and basis of Britain's long-term aircraft programme.

This story was discreditable not only to the Government but to the Secretary of State personally. The mere rehearsal of these events constituted an indictment of Mr. Healey and his conduct in office.

He has always (he said) shown considerable impatience at the care and persistence with which I have followed and compared his various not to say varying, statements as the months have gone by. I do not wonder.

It is only natural that somebody who attaches so little importance to accuracy as does the Secretary of State should feel discomfort, not to say irritation, at being so closely observed. (Opposition cheers.)

MR. WEDGWOOD BENN said that of all people to wring their hands over cancellation of an aircraft project, the Conservatives were the least qualified to do so. Mr. Selwyn Lloyd had cancelled two projects at a cost of £27m.: Mr. Thorneycroft, four, costing £18,400,000; Mr. Sandys, eight, costing £109m.; and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Maudling), 10, costing £19,500,000.

There can have been (he said) no combination of enemy forces in the world since the war who could have inflicted such damage on the British aircraft industry as the Opposition. (Ministerial laughter and cheers.) The number of aircraft cancelled by the Opposition would have met the needs of a world air force for a generation. It was not the core which was cancelled but the whole apple. (Renewed Ministerial laughter.)

There were sufficient designers in the British aircraft industry to produce almost any aircraft, however complex. The problem in selling or in producing aircraft was finding the market for them.

The thing that struck him as obsolescent about the Opposition's view was that they talked about aircraft as if the problem was how to make a swing-wing or whatever it happened to be, instead of the problem of creating an aircraft that met a need and which spread research and development over the whole market.

The full capability at Walton is being preserved (he said) while we evaluate in depth the alternatives and reach the decision that has to be reached.

The Opposition motion was rejected by 323 votes to 233—Government majority, 90.

The closure was carried by 175 votes to 76—majority, 99.

A division was called on the amendment, but no tellers were nominated in support of it, and the amendment was negatived.

Pregnancy after rape

The Government motion to facilitate further discussion of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Bill was carried by 303 votes to 202—majority, 101.

On Clause 1 (Medical Termination of Pregnancy),

MR. TILNEY (Liverpool, Wavertree, C.) moved an amendment to add as a ground for an abortion that the woman or girl became pregnant as a result of an alleged offence under section of the Sexual Offences Act, 1956, dealing with rape, intercourse with a girl under 13, or between 13 and 16, intercourse with an idiot or imbecile, incest and indecent assault, provided that information should have been lodged with the police within 48 hours of the commission of the alleged offence.

This, he said, would reintroduce in a more exact form sections of the original Bill which were removed because they were difficult to delineate exactly.

MR. DAVID STEEL (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles, L.), sponsor of the Bill, said that cases of genuine sexual assault and unlawful carnal knowledge were adequately catered for; discretion was given to a medical practitioner to consider them by referring to the total environment of the patient, and also to her mental health.

MISS BACON, Minister of State, Home Office (Leeds, South-East, Lab.) said the provision had been taken out during the Committee stage for several reasons. It was covered by the widening of other parts of the Bill. It had been felt that if specific reference were made to rape doctors would have to determine whether a criminal offence had been committed. Further there were dangers of false allegations.

120 guinea fees

MR. ROSSI (Hornsey, C.) moved an amendment to provide that a doctor should be guilty of an offence if he performed, assisted or advised in the termination of a pregnancy for a fee in excess of those laid down in regulations made by the Minister, and under liability to a fine on first conviction of £500, and on subsequent conviction of £1,000.

This amendment was considered with one in the name of Mr. Turner-Samuels (Solihull Malton, C.) to provide that the fee charged should not exceed £75; and a second in Mr. Rossi's name to make a condition of the Minister's approval of a place where terminations might be carried out should be that the Minister should prescribe the fees chargeable for treatment there.

MR. ROSSI said that as the Bill stood there was a real inducement to certain types of medical practitioners to charge high fees. He had been told of a practitioner in the West End who charged 120 guineas for an operation of this kind, and did about 12 in a morning.

MR. STEEL said big fees were charged because people seeking abortions felt that part of the fee was recompense for the practitioner for taking a risk at law. He hoped that this factor would disappear after the Bill was passed.

MR. SNOW, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Health (Lichfield and Tamworth, Lab.) said that in January the House had agreed that there should be no limitation to the fees charged by practitioners to private patients outside the Health Service. The House having made that decision it would not be right to change it.

The debate was closured, and the amendment was rejected by 146 votes to 53—majority, 93.

The House went on to debate a series of amendments relating to the wording of the last subclause to Clause 1 of the Bill.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

HOUSE OF LORDS

TODAY, at 2[illegible]

Road Transport Lighting Bill, third reading; Post Office and Telecommunications Bill, and Post Office (Data Processing Service) Bill, and Public Health (Control of Disease) Bill, second reading; Diseases Drugs Bill, and Wireless Telegraphy Bill, report.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

TODAY, at 11

Criminal Law Bill, committee stage; Motions to approve Matrimonial Causes (Costs) and Reinstatement Levy (Miscarb) (No. 2) Regulations, and similar regulations for Scotland.

nts by France

our representatives home and work out alternative policies to the Common Market ?

MR. WILSON.—Our representatives are not there. (Laughter.) The decision of the Council of Ministers was to refer the question to the Commission. That is appropriate under the Treaty of Rome.

There has been no flat rejection by the French Foreign Minister or anyone else. The matter is now proceeding through the Commission.

In the speech of M. Couve de Murville there were a number of fallacious statements. These are matters that can be dealt with as time goes by.

MR. MOYLE (Lewisham, North, Lab.).—There may be some danger that the councils will be dominated by the local authorities who are putting up the money.

MR. SHORT.—It has been made perfectly clear to the local authorities that if they make a contribution it does not entitle them to any given number of representatives, or indeed any representation at all.

Mr Healey arranging talks in Europe on aircraft to replace swing-wing.
The Times (London, England),Friday, Jul 14, 1967; pg. 13; Issue 56993.

Category: Politics and Parliament

Gale Document Number:CS219245806

AIR ATTACK IN NEW CANAL FIGHTING

Fiercest clash since end of war

Israel aircraft attacked Egyptian artillery batteries last night after a day of clashes, including tank and artillery exchanges, described as the heaviest since the Middle East war last month.

Cairo claimed that five Israel jets were shot down, but in Tel Aviv an Israel Army spokesman said all the aircraft returned safely. Five Israelis were reported dead and two injured in the exchanges across the Suez Canal. Egypt told the united Nations Security Council that 20 Egyptians were killed in yesterday's clashes.

In moves to bring permanent peace along the cease-fire line, arrangements were agreed in Cairo and Tel Aviv for United Nations observers to take up positions on both banks of the Canal. Supervision will begin at noon on Sunday.

CRAFT DESTROYED BY EGYPTIAN FIRE

From STEWART HARRIS, Cairo, July 14

There was firing across the Suez Canal again today, and an Egyptian military spokesman claimed that the Israelis lost two tanks, two half-track vehicles, a launch, two boats and several small dinghies. No Egyptian losses were mentioned but Israel artillery fire was said to have killed two civilians and injured several more in the Araysha district of Ismailia.

The incidents were described in four statements. The first said that Egypt-Israel forces exchanged artillery and machine-gun fire across the canal in el Qantara, Ferdan and Ismailia. At 02.40 G.M.T. Israel forces launched artillery and machine-gun fire against the Egyptians. Egyptian forces set ablaze and destroyed one tank.

Machine-gun fire was exchanged for 50 minutes when all firing stopped.

The second statement said that the Israelis launched the dinghies which were destroyed by Egyptian forces. This was at el Qantara.

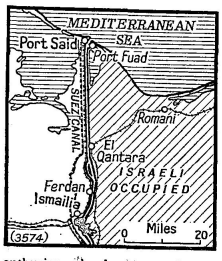
Leaders' talks

The third statement said that the Israelis opened artillery and mortar fire at 11.00 G.M.T. on Egyptian positions in the Suez area. The Egyptians returned the fire and destroyed one Israel tank, the two half-tracks and two boats. Firing went on for an hour.

The fourth statement said the Israelis resumed artillery firing in the Ismailia area, hitting civilian houses in the Araysha district where two people were killed and a number of other civilians injured. Egyptian forces silenced the Israel artillery.

In Cairo today President Nasser, Colonel Boumedienne, the Algerian Prime Minister, President Arif of Iraq and Dr. al-Atassi, the Syrian head of state, were continuing their talks and according to *Al Ahram* the three visiting heads of state have decided not to leave until they have reached agreement. Mr. Mahgoub, the Sudan Prime Minister, is now due to arrive here by air from New York tomorrow.

Today as if to emphasize the unity of Muslims in this part of the world the four leaders prayed together at the mosque of Al Azhar. They were greeted with



enthusiasm by huge crowds and drove away together in an open car.

In his weekly article in *Al Ahram* which is read carefully here as an indication of Nasser's thinking, the editor-in-chief, Muhammad Hassanein Haikal, still supports the idea of an Arab summit meeting even if it "explodes from within". He argues that the time has never been more propitious for all Arab countries to support each other.

20 killed, says U N delegate

NEW YORK, July 14.—Egypt told the Security Council tonight that 20 Egyptians were killed and 35 wounded in clashes with Israel forces along the Suez Canal during the day.

Mr. Muhammad el Kony, the Egyptian delegate, complained to the council president, Mr. Endalkachew Makonnen, about Israel action in the area, but did not immediately ask for a formal meeting of the council on the situation. —*Reuter.*

Other Middle East news, page 3

Air Attack In New Canal Fighting.
From STEWART HARRIS

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Jul 15, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 56994.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS17001711

UN observers ready

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Tel Aviv, July 14

United Nations observers will take up positions on the banks of the Suez Canal tomorrow and from noon on Sunday will begin envigilating the cease-fire.

In today's clashes, probably the fiercest since the Arab-Israel war last month, five Israelis were killed and at least 20 injured. Israel mounted an air attack to silence heavy coastal batteries in the Suez area this evening.

Arrangements for the United Nations observers were concluded by General Odd Bull of Norway, the chief ceasefire supervisor, in negotiations here following talks in Cairo. The observers' headquarters on the east bank will be in el Qantara and on the west bank at Ismailia.

General Moshe Dayan, the Israel Defence Minister, told General Bull today that he was not entirely satisfied with the arrangements agreed earlier in Cairo.

He noted that the Egyptians had not consented to communication between the observers on the two banks and said such contact was essential. He also regretted that no agreement had been reached with the Egyptians on the demarcation of a cease-fire line.

Risk to civilians

He proposed an arrangement for the use of the Suez Canal by small Egypt and Israel craft. Either vessels of both countries should be permitted to sail along the banks or none. General Bull undertook to take this up in Cairo.

Claiming that the Egyptians were shelling from emplacements in urban centres including Port Ibrahim, General Dayan said that this endangered civilian populations in the area. The firing today was along the length of the Canal from el Qantara to Suez, but there was no shooting at the north end within gun range of Port Said where Russian warships are anchored.

The Israelis said that in today's clashes the Egyptians opened fire on each occasion and they replied. A small naval vessel was hit off Port Tewfik and later they hit an Egyptian vessel off Port Ibrahim.

Union p

Remarks made by Mr. Frank Cousins, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, at the union's conference in Blackpool on Thursday, are to be raised as a question of Parliamentary privilege in the Commons.

Mr. Kenneth Lewis, Conservative M.P. for Rutland and Stamford, will ask the Speaker on Monday to give a ruling on whether there was, *prima facie*, a breach of privilege.

Mr. Cousins was reported as complaining about union-backed Labour M.P.s who found reasons for not resigning when he did in protest at the Government's prices and incomes policy, and who failed even to raise their voices in a way which might have influ-

UN observers ready.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Jul 15, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 56994.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS17132783

THE TIMES DIARY

Steamed-up preservationists
Menon the elder statesman
Artistry of Oum Kalthoum

BRITAIN'S railway preservationists are angry with British Rail because, they say, they are trying to squeeze their lovely old steam engines off their lines. Though "farewell to steam" excursions have been common in the past year or so, the enthusiasts who have bought grand old locomotives and maintained them out of love are finding B.R. chiefs increasingly reluctant to allow them on to the national system.

Mr. Ian Allan, publisher of books and periodicals on transport, tells me that Western Region have already banned steam entirely, and that an attempt by the preservationists to get together with British Rail and coordinate arrangements for a limited number of well-patronized "steam specials" has been brushed off by the railways board with the comment that they "regard the excursion field as a diminishing part of their business".

Mr. Allan says he talked to British Rail's chief passenger officer, Mr. John Nunneley, and was told: "We're not interested in steam excursions." The railway's argument is that there is little profit in these "specials": that fuelling, servicing, manning and inspecting steam locomotives grows more difficult every day; and that steam trains do not fit into modern timetables and distract management from their job of developing and running a modern railway system.

Allan and his fellow steam enthusiasts maintain that they are able to overcome operational snags and that excursions could be profitable if British Rail wanted them too. Many steam engines were bought in the belief that they could continue to be run over B.R. tracks on excursions; and Allan comments tartly that every steam special must be insured for £500,000 before it is allowed to move on to the public tracks. "We in this country produced the first steam locomotive in the world", he says. "It would be a pity if the whole thing died."

British Rail are unimpressed. Steam engines just don't fit in with modern railways run in a modern way, they say.

When Baldwin levied himself

THE commemoration of the centenary of the birth of Stanley Baldwin yesterday recalls the occasion, nearly half a century ago, when the Editor of *The Times* received a remarkable letter—to be published anonymously—from the future Prime Minister. In it Baldwin, then Financial Secretary to the Treasury and a figure little known in politics, announced his intention of surrendering to the Government one-fifth of his personal fortune by way of a voluntary capital levy.

The country was financially exhausted after the First World War, and serious thought had been given to the possibility of a compulsory capital levy as a means of reducing the burden of National Debt interest.

Baldwin did not believe in a statutory capital levy. But he thought that well-to-do people might be persuaded to impose upon themselves a voluntary capital levy as a patriotic gesture, and he decided to set the example himself. It was a quixotic act for a junior Minister but typical of the sincerity of the man.

Thin disguise

Wickham Steed, then editor of *The Times*, published the letter—with which Baldwin's card was enclosed—on June 24, 1919, and it appeared over the initials "F.S.T.". This may be thought to have been a thin disguise for the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, but the authorship of the letter evidently remained a secret for some years.

Baldwin wrote in the letter: "I have made as accurate an estimate as I am able of the value of my own estate and have arrived at a total of about £580,000. I have decided to realize 20 per cent of that amount or, say, £120,000, which I will purchase £150,000 of the new War Loan and present it to the Government for cancellation."

Baldwin had hoped that if the wealthy classes in the community would levy themselves voluntarily it might be possible to get in £1,000m. and thus save the taxpayer £50m. a year in interest on the debt.

He was doomed to disappointment. Few followed his example and the voluntary capital levy produced only about £500,000. But "F.S.T.'s" effort remains on record as a good deed in a naughty world.

Irrepressible Menon

KRISHNA MENON, former Indian Minister of Defence, is in London on his first visit for more than five years. Recently turned 70, his wiry but unruly hair more white than grey, he looks very much the elder statesman, twinkling like everyone's favourite uncle, parrying awkward questions and giving teasing comments in return.

He is here on holiday, following visits to Cairo and Stockholm. Although bereft today of even a back-bench seat in the Indian Parliament, he does not accept that he is out of politics, and cites Churchill's years in the shadows as an encouraging precedent. Nor does he find his lack of status inhibiting; he keeps a close eye on world affairs and says what he thinks.



Krishna Menon.

Predictably he attacks the Israelis for overrunning Arab territory and regrets that Britain should endorse American policy in Vietnam. "She should not take sides; she is co-chairman of the Geneva Conference."

In London since Monday, he occupies a modest suite high up in the Savoy where he receives anyone who wishes to talk with him from 8 a.m. onwards. He is not going out of his way to meet political acquaintances. "If they want to see me that's fine; but I won't make any special appointments."

His obvious affection for Britain—he lived here for more than 25 years, was St. Pancras borough councillor and secretary of the India League—is only tempered by an irritation over her policies. Vietnam and the Middle East aside, he sums up the Britain of 1967 in three words: "lack of dynamism".

Cairo's siren follows Israelis

STUDENTS of the Middle East scene could be excused for sensing a minor thaw in Cairo's attitude to Israel in its plans for Egyptian singer Oum Kalthoum's current season. Second in popularity in the Arab world only to President Nasser in his heyday, she has been booked by the Egyptian Ministry of Culture to appear at the Paris Olympia Music Hall *after* Jonatan Karmon's Israeli troupe.

Oum Kalthoum, a matronly but beautiful 63, wields a power far greater than the ordinary singer over audiences from Morocco to the Persian Gulf. But her effect on the Cairo population is so great that according to many Egyptians Nasser never makes an important public speech on a night when she sings because he fears the competition.

The undulating tones of her voice drone daily from radio stations throughout all the Arab countries; she sings about love, its pains and pleasures, and Arab folklore. Oum Kalthoum rarely leaves Egypt and her regular public performances in Cairo on the first Thursday of each month, sometimes lasting up to four hours at a stretch, are usually sold out more than a year ahead.



Oum Kalthoum.

The daughter of a devout Muslim, she studied the Koran from early childhood and sang Koranic songs to villagers when only nine. She was a shepherdess before moving to Cairo to sing professionally. Over the years most of Egypt's better known composers have written songs for her and she has set poems dedicated to her to music.

For her two Paris performances Oum Kalthoum will receive £14,000 from the Olympia Music Hall, the highest fee yet paid there to any artist. It will be payable, in the first instance, to the Ministry of Culture. But, I understand, as "Singer of the East" she is not unlike other legendary Arab songstresses in enjoying a special relationship with the government.

THE KEY to George V's admiration for Sir Edward Elgar was revealed yesterday by actor Sir Ralph Richardson when presenting prizes to music students at Wigmore Hall. "Elgar was the sort of person who looked like a bookie", he said. "In fact, that was the secret of his success with King George V. They used to go to concerts together, sit in the back row, and talk about racing."

Syria's sinister Soviets

AS well as huge quantities of Egyptian arms and equipment, Israel's booty from the Middle East war includes tons of military documents captured on the Egyptian, Jordanian and Syrian fronts.

Hardpressed military intelligence officers are working a careful way through this material, and piece by piece are revealing their findings to an absorbed Israel public.

Some of the discoveries might be better left on the office files. The latest titbit to be revealed comes under the imposing rubric: "The Syrian Intelligence keep the Russian Military advisers in Syria under surveillance". It was already well known that Russian technicians were helping Syrian forces, so our man in Tel Aviv dipped into the booklet published in Arabic, Hebrew and English which told all.

Syrian spying on the Russians revealed that when the men worked, the women went shopping in the market, but had difficulties from not knowing Arabic. After hours, Soviet specialists "spend their evenings at the cinema or at home or walking in the streets if the weather permits". Syrian intelligence did not stop there. Intelligence officers reported: "We did not notice suspicious or innocent contacts between those Soviet specialists and any person in the army".

Clearly in these difficult times it is not safe to remain silent with anyone, even if you don't speak his language.

PHS

The Times Diary.
PHS

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Jul 15, 1967; pg. 10; Issue 56994.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS168389871

Oil boycott confirmed in Kuwait talks

FROM OUR MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT—Beirut, July 14

Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Arabian Minister for Oil, left Kuwait today after two days of talks there on coordinating the two countries' petroleum policies.

According to Kuwait Radio, Shaikh Yamani reiterated that Saudi Arabia was observing the boycott of countries which supported Zionist aggression.

In spite of Saudi Arabia's disenchantment this remains a pillar of Arab policy, a kind of proof that, in the words of Syria's Prime Minister, the Arabs are willing to make further sacrifices in the cause. With respect to oil this willingness is normally expressed by those who are minor producers and Iraq alone of the producers seems to have its heart in the boycott. There the most moderate voices are calling for nationalization of British, American and Dutch interests in the Iraq Petroleum Company and the prospects have improved that a deal over the unexploited North Rumaila field will be concluded with the Italian organization ENI instead of with IPC.

In Egypt, much of whose production is now going to be exploited by the Israelis in Sinai, King Faisal came under attack today for wanting to resume shipments to Britain and the United States.

Shaikh Yamani was quoted as saying that his talks in Kuwait were primarily concerned with technical details connected with joint exploration in the neutral zone between Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. However, he also brought a verbal message for the Amir from King Faisal and no doubt inquired of his hosts about a newspaper report suggesting that a rapprochement between Kuwait and the Soviet Union was in the wind. The newspaper *Sawt Al Khalij* said that a message from Mr. Kosygin to the Kuwait Prime Minister was a further step towards a rapprochement.

Farther down the Gulf, Shaikh Zaid Bin, Sultan of Abu Dhabi, has pledged his loyalty to the boycott of Britain and the United States, but on the Mediterranean there has been some movement in the direction of resumed production.

Cooperation for computers

There are renewed hopes for Anglo-French cooperation in the computer field. Next week the Automation Group of the Plessey Company open talks with the French organization, C.A.E.

Both companies are playing a vital role in the plans of their respective governments to reestablish national industries to compete with the American invasion. As a joint venture the two companies could form the biggest European combine making some essential products for the computer business.

The discussions are expected to include collaboration in micro-electronic technology for small to medium-sized computers and in the development of ancillary equipment that is now making up more than half the cost of computer installations.

Oil boycott confirmed in Kuwait talks.
FROM OUR MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Jul 15, 1967; pg. 15; Issue 56994.

Category: Business and Finance

Gale Document Number:CS252407023

ARABS AGREE ON STRATEGY

CAIRO, July 16.—The leaders of five Arab states meeting here announced tonight that they had agreed on steps to eliminate the consequences of Israel "aggression" against Arab countries, according to Cairo radio.

Their statement carried the threat of a continuing Arab boycott on oil shipments to the United States and Britain. It also hinted at the possibilities of increasing ties with the Soviet Union, which has been closely supporting the Arabs.

Just before the talks concluded, President Nasser conferred with Mr. Jacob Malik, the Soviet deputy Foreign Minister, whose visit to Cairo coincided with the arrival of 12 Soviet warships at Alexandria and Port Said.

New springboard

The five are President Nasser, President al-Atassi of Syria, President Aref of Iraq, Colonel Boumédienne, Prime Minister of Algeria, and President el-Azhari of Sudan.

"The five leaders, in the face of this destiny-shaping test of the Arab nations . . . have asserted their absolute confidence that the huge Arab capabilities can turn this setback into a new springboard to achieve the noble and just national goals towards which the Arab nation has worked", their statement said.

They approved a proposal from President el-Azhari for a meeting of Arab foreign ministers in Khartum in the near future.

In another development tonight, Egypt gave a warning that it would immediately fire on any Israel ships trying to sail down the Suez Canal.

UN delay

TEL AVIV, July 16.—The United Nations has delayed the start of its cease-fire observation along the Suez Canal, it was announced here today.

General Odd Bull of Norway, the United Nations chief observer, said in a message to General Moshe Dayan, Israel's Defence Minister, that he could not begin observation at this stage "until Egypt's position on the operation of the observers is clarified".

General Bull made no mention of the specific points requiring "clarification". A United Nations spokesman here said two four-man advance teams had already arrived at points on each side of the waterway.—*Reuter.*

UN men greeted by air attack, page 4.

Captured MiGs examined in U S

NEW YORK, July 16.—Four Soviet MiG-21 fighters captured by Israel from the Arabs have been brought to the United States, where they are now yielding secrets to western intelligence, *Time* magazine said today.

The report says two of the aircraft—the first to fall into western hands—are being test-flown at Edward air force base in California. The other two "are being dissected and evaluated by experts in the laboratories at Wright-Patterson air force base in Ohio".

Time says an even greater security loss to the Soviet Union is its S.A.M. ground-to-air missiles which Israel captured from Egypt in the recent war.

"An examination of the S.A.M.s will reveal not only a great deal about Soviet weaponry, but also about the precise state of Soviet electronic engineering and manufacturing techniques, both of which are intimately connected with the progress of the Soviet space effort."—*Associated Press.*

Publishers may sue state

BY A STAFF REPORTER

British publishers might have to consider claims against the Government for loss of income resulting from the new copyright convention signed in Stockholm last Friday, Mr. R. C. Gowers, assistant secretary of the Publishers' Association, said yesterday.

The convention gives "underdeveloped countries" the right to reproduce, without payment if they choose, any books to be used for teaching, study, or research.

Mr. Gowers said it gave some nations the right "legally to pirate" the property of authors and publishers.

The convention does not define "underdeveloped countries" but, working on United Nations guidelines, about 70 countries would be concerned. They comprise all Asia, most of Africa, except for South Africa and possibly Rhodesia, and all the Latin American countries.

Saving face

British publishers are angry that Britain did not veto the convention, but merely abstained from signing—"a face-saving gesture".

It was only after a spokesman for publishers had called on Mr. Jay, President of the Board of Trade, that the Government decided not to endorse the agreement. The Government view is that they would antagonize the Afro-Asian group if they blocked the convention.

The publishers' view is that if Britain wants to aid countries she should do so through the proper Government department.

The loss to British publishers and authors would be £10m. to £12m. a year, about a quarter of their total earnings.

Among the publishers who will be most affected are the Oxford University Press, Longmans, and Nelson. Macmillans, who have agreed with nine African countries to run their state publishing firms, might find their own copyright being ignored in other countries. Macmillans have made it clear that they will not practise "pirating".

Leading article, page 9.

Woman killed in 80ft car fall

A woman was killed and two men were injured, one critically, when their Mini-Cooper car plunged 80ft. into a quarry at Hessle, near Hull, early yesterday. Pamela Prince, aged 21, of Finkle Street, Cottingham, near Hull, was flung out as the car went over the quarry edge.

In another early morning accident four young people were killed when their Mini-car was in collision with another car near Bridport, Dorset.

Arabs Agree On Strategy.
The Times (London, England),Monday, Jul 17, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 56995.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS17919217

Elation in Cairo at fighting

FROM STEWART HARRIS

CAIRO, JULY 16

"Our aircraft destroy most of enemy's artillery positions on east bank" was the headline in today's *Al Ahram*; and Cairo's two other newspapers also emphasized what they described as the success of Egypt's Air Force in the fighting which ended last night. The Army's artillery and tanks were also believed to have done well.

The face of Cairo did not seem worried by the fighting 80 miles away. Rather. it showed elation. When you have just been knocked down it is good to get in a couple of quick hooks before the bell—which was obviously coming with the appointment of the United Nations observers along the Suez Canal.

The morale of the people needed this show of defiance; so, too, did the morale of the Army and Air Force. The demonstration has also made it easier for President Nasser, whose considered policy in the months ahead will not now be so much affected by popular or military demands for action against the Israel troops if they do not immediately withdraw.

Civilians killed

The drama of the past two days will also blow a bit on the fires of Arab nationalism at a time of critical policy-making, and Egypt's leadership will be reinforced. Moreover world opinion may have noticed more Israel "aggression", causing more civilian casualties.

No journalists were allowed in the area, so once again it is impossible to know what really happened. However, this is the official Cairo record of yesterday's fighting, which began at sunrise and ended at 11 o'clock (local time) last night.

Israel artillery bombarded Suez, Port Tewfik, Ismalia, Kabrit, El Shatt and Ferdan, according to the spokesman here. Israel aircraft raided Suez and Ismalia. In Suez fuel tanks and a school were hit; in Ismalia the railway station and a hotel in which there were United Nations observers. Twenty-four civilians were killed and a number wounded.

The Israel losses were said to be six aircraft, six field guns, and a boat which was being launched. The Egyptian losses were three tanks, three field guns, and one aircraft, whose pilot is safe.

President Nasser and the leaders of four other Arab countries—Algeria, Sudan, Syria and Iraq—met here again today.

Elation in Cairo at fighting.
FROM STEWART HARRIS

The Times (London, England),Monday, Jul 17, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 56995.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67464433

EGYPT THREAT TO FIRE ON BOATS

Israel charged with Suez aggression

United Nations cease-fire observers began operating yesterday in the Suez Canal area after agreement had been reached between Egypt and United Nations truce officials on details of their work.

Soon afterwards Egypt charged Israel with a new aggressive act by bringing up nine landing boats to launch on the Canal.

Two of the men who had attended the week-end conference of Arab leaders in Cairo—Col. Houari Boumedienne, the Algerian Prime Minister, and President Abdul Rahman Arif of Iraq—flew to Moscow yesterday.

TEAMS OF FOUR ON EACH SIDE

From MICHAEL WOLFERS—Qantara, Israel-occupied Egypt, July 17

Observation of the cease-fire line between Egypt and Israel along the Suez Canal was operating from 6 o'clock (local time) this evening, it was announced at the headquarters of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization.

The announcement came after Lieutenant-General Odd Bull, the Chief of Staff of the organization, had visited Cairo for discussions with the Egyptian authorities on the routine to be followed in the area. Officials declined to go into details.

Four observers began work on each bank of the Canal, with three on each side going to observation posts in the area, and one remaining at the Qantara headquarters on the Israel-occupied side, and one at the Ismailia headquarters on the Egyptian side. More observers were expected to join them in the next few days.

Here in Qantara 10 highly skilled men had been waiting today for international agreement to allow them to begin their task. In the two days since their arrival their hardest job at their headquarters, which I visited, had been the housework needed to transform a neglected private house into an operational centre.

Carnaby Street air

The headquarters is commanded by an Australian, Major Roy Skinner, of Canberra, who has Belgian, Swedish and Italian military observers and an administrative staff of six, of whom one is British, Mr. Donald Bridge, a 32-year-old radio technician.

The United Nations officials had been greeted on arrival by a battle between Egyptian and Israel aircraft. The Qantara headquarters and vehicles are liberally decked with United Nations flags—"Our only weapon", said a member of the mission. To emphasize the point Mr. Bridge today took a spotlight from a water truck to rig up night floodlighting for the flag strung across the face of the building on the canal bank in full view of the Egyptian town on the opposite bank.

Cairo complaint to U Thant

NEW YORK, July 17.—The United Arab Republic today charged Israel with a new aggressive act — bringing nine landing boats up to the east bank of the Suez Canal.

The U.A.R. delegate, Mr. Mohamad Awad el-Kony told U Thant, the Secretary-General, in a note that Egyptian forces would have no alternative but to fire if the Israelis tried to launch the boats.

The Egyptian note came several hours after United Nations supervision of the cease-fire along the Suez Canal began.

Mr. el-Kony said the boat action could have serious implications for the safety of foreign ships moored in the Bitter Lakes.

In a television interview broadcast from Cairo tonight two Israeli prisoners captured last Friday said they had been ordered to sail in the Suez Canal to show that Israel was in command of the Canal's eastern bank.

The prisoners, whose names were given as Lieutenant Jacob Kahatov, 20, and Navy Corporal V. Abraham, 20, said their mission was to show the United Nations observers that Israel was using the eastern side of the canal.—*Reuter.*

Egypt Threat To Fire On Boats.
From MICHAEL WOLFERS

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Jul 18, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 56996.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS17526002

The Commons: relief for crews in blocked canal: compensation claims after Middle East hostilities

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 10 a.m.

The Irish Sailors and Soldiers Land Trust Bill was read a second time.

The Welsh Language Bill, to remove existing legal obstacles to the use of Welsh and to repeal or amend those Acts which prevent or limit the use of the language was read a second time.

The sitting was suspended at 12.30 p.m. until 2.30 p.m.

MR. LUBBOCK (Orpington, L.) asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs what steps he had taken to restore postal communications between the United Kingdom and British citizens trapped on ships in the Great Bitter Lake.

MR. W. T. RODGERS, Under-Secretary, Foreign Office (Stockton-on-Tees, Lab.).—We have been in touch with the owners and understand that mail to and from the ships is now being received regularly.

MR. LUBBOCK.—In view of the renewed hostilities between the Arab and Israeli forces it is imperative that the crews be withdrawn. In any case they are suffering hardship because of the breakdown of the air conditioning plant and shortages of food and water. Is it not in the interests of the crews and their families that they be brought back?

MR. RODGERS.—We have no reports of firing within five miles of the ships, and most of it is further away. I agree about the crews and the necessity to make sure that their conditions are at least tolerable. We are in touch with the shipowners and we have discussed with them the question of relieving the crews and replacing them.

First step to reopening

MR. BLAKER (Blackpool, South, C.) asked the Secretary of State if he would make a statement on the progress of efforts to secure the reopening of the Suez Canal.

Mr. GEORGE BROWN (Belper, Lab.).—As I told the House in the debate on July 6, we are keeping in touch with other Governments who are interested in the canal and we are doing our best to get it open as soon as we can. I regard the agreement of both sides to the stationing of United Nations observers in the canal area as a useful first step towards this.

MR. BLAKER.—What is the estimate of the time required to clear the canal, once the will to do so is present?

MR. BROWN.—I think it is much more important to get to point where the will to do it is present. The physical clearance, I imagine, will not take all that long.

Injured Britons

MR. WORSLEY (Chelsea, C.) asked what action the Secretary of State was taking to compensate British citizens injured in attacks by terrorists in Aden.

MR. G. BROWN.—There is no scheme in Aden for compensating persons other than Government employees for injuries caused by terrorist attack, and I regret it is not possible to introduce such a scheme.

MR. WORSLEY.—Would the Foreign Secretary not reconsider having such a scheme? I wrote to him about a tragic case of a woman who had been paralysed.

MR. BROWN.—I did look into this. I was disturbed about the case referred to.

Government employees of all kinds are covered, and larger civilian employers have arrangements to cover their employees injured in such attacks.

In the case of smaller firms I would advise civilians working in any of these territories, where we do not have reciprocal arrangements for insurance, to insure themselves. Advice on the risks involved in travelling is given when passports are issued.

Compensation for damage

MR. BOYD - CARPENTER (Kingston upon Thames, C.) asked the Foreign Secretary what steps he was taking to secure compensation for the damage suffered by British subjects in Egypt, Syria, and Jordan in recent weeks.

MR. RODGERS.—All British subjects evacuated under official arrangements from countries in the Middle East and North Africa are being invited to inform the Foreign Office of any loss or damage to their property. Steps have also been taken to let those who leave the areas under their own arrangements know how to notify their losses.

We have also taken appropriate action to reserve the rights of the Government to claim compensation on behalf of British subjects in respect of personal injury or loss or damage to their property.

MR. BOYD-CARPENTER asked if it was the intention to make payments at once to those who had been forced to leave their homes and businesses through no fault of their own. Was it the firm intention of the Government to claim compensation from those countries whose actions, particularly in spreading lies about Britain, had caused the trouble? (Opposition cheers.)

MR. RODGERS. — Certainly when we have details of the loss and damage we will be taking every step we can to make sure that proper compensation is effected.

We have a great deal of sympathy for those who have suffered through no fault of their own. Although there were special circumstances after the 1956 affair, it is not customary for the Government to make advances on account of possible compensation being received by owners in the future from a foreign Government.

LORD BALNIEL. — Sympathy is not enough. We are concerned about the inadequacy of the help given to refugees who have come to this country. Will the Under-Secretary consider making *ex-gratia* loans available, subject to repayment when compensation is made from the Middle East?

MR. RODGERS.—We are looking into this and are in touch with everyone concerned. I do not think they feel that in this respect they are being neglected.

Protests to China

MR. BOYD - CARPENTER asked what action the Foreign Secretary proposed to take with the Chinese Government to secure redress for the deliberate discourtesies and injuries inflicted on the British Chargé d'Affaires in Peking and his staff.

MR. RODGERS.—I protested very strongly to the acting Chinese Chargé d'Affaires in London, deploring the failure of the Chinese authorities to restrain the demonstrators or to give proper protection to the office of our own Chargé d'Affaires, contrary to the accepted principles of relations between sovereign states, and I reserved our right to demand full compensation.

MR. ARTHUR DAVIDSON (Accrington, Lab.).—There are reports of further incidents today in which two members of a British mission were pelted with tomatoes and suffered further humiliations. (Cries of "Oh.") Is the Under-Secretary satisfied that his protests are strong enough? (Opposition cheers.)

MR. RODGERS.—I am satisfied that the protests are strong enough. But I greatly regret, and this has been made clear before in the House by Foreign Office Ministers, that we have not had satisfactory replies.

Everyone in the House will admire the way our staff in Peking, and previously in Shanghai, has stood up to humiliating circumstances.

SIR ALEC DOUGLAS-HOME (Kinross and West Perth, C.).—Will the Government keep in mind the possibility of withdrawing our representation from China if these offences go on much longer? (Opposition cheers.)

MR. RODGERS.—There are a number of factors and possibilities, of which this is one. In some respects what we must seek to do is to follow the example of our staffs in protesting very strongly, but making the most of a difficult situation if we believe that it is in our long-term interests to do so.

The wrong 'Morning'

SIR GERALD NABARRO (Worcestershire, South, C.) asked the Foreign Secretary why invitations were issued in his name to Mr. Sam Russell and Mr. Lance Samson, care of the Labour Press Co-operative Society Limited, to attend a Government reception at Lancaster House on June 7, 1967, in view of the fact that neither had ever been employed by this co-operative society; and what steps he was taking to prevent such wastage of public funds.

MR. BROWN.—The invitations referred to were for a reception for some of the British and overseas press in London. Such receptions are arranged from time to time. These invitations were intended for two of the staff of the *Morning Star*, but owing to a clerical error were sent to the *Morning News*, at 348 Grays Inn Road, which at one time was also the address of the Labour Party Co-operative Society, Ltd. (Laughter.)

The cost to public funds of sending these invitations was 8d.—(laughter) — whereas the cost of answering this Parliamentary question has been about £5. (Renewed laughter and cheers.)

Privilege com

MR. KENNETH LEWIS (Rutland and Stamford, C.) raised as a complaint of breach of privilege the decision of the Transport and General Workers Union, at its conference on Thursday last, to ve 26 Labour members, including some Ministers, who it sponsored.

He read a report of the conference decision which appeared in the London *Evening News*. One passage in the article said:—

"The 26 are members of the union's parliamentary panel which will be reconstituted, with existing members having to apply for enrolment, when the present Parliament ends."

In two previous privilege cases, those of Mr. W. J. Brown of the Civil Service Clerical Association, in March, 1947, and Mr. Robinson, of the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers in May, 1944, the Committee of Privileges appeared to recognize that members looked after the interests of outside bodies. But the committee said that there were limits to which such bodies could go to get absolute conformity from the member concerned. The committee took the view that influence

The Commons: relief for crews in blocked canal: compensation claims after Middle East hostilities.
The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Jul 18, 1967; pg. 13; Issue 56996.

Category: Politics and Parliament

Gale Document Number:CS218459378

BP giant tanker jetty as long-term plan

The announcement that British Petroleum is planning a £1m. jetty that could accommodate tankers of 500,000 tons does not mean a change of policy because of the Middle East situation.

In the company's annual report last April improvements to take 200,000-ton tankers were foreshadowed. The planned new jetty, for completion in March, 1969, is in fact being built to take 200,000-ton vessels, though with later modifications it could accommodate the larger ships.

The new jetty will reinforce the existing facilities at the Finnart ocean terminal on Loch Long, on the west coast of Scotland, which already takes 100,000-ton tankers. It completes BP's major expansion scheme for the Grangemouth refinery which includes a 57-mile crude oil pipeline from Finnart to the refinery.

BP has arranged a number of long-term charters on 200,000-ton tankers and some two months ago it ordered two for outright purchase from Japan. In recent weeks there has been speculation that BP might be in the market for more giant tankers, but a company spokesman said that these rumours are without foundation.

The company, with most of its oil coming on the long haul from the Persian Gulf, has been hard hit by the closing of the Suez Canal. Already giant tankers can make the journey more cheaply round the Cape and it would be logical to expect an acceleration in the company's plans for acquiring large tankers.

Orders now would not help the existing situation but the Middle East crisis has demonstrated that the Suez Canal is still vulnerable, in spite of its economic value to Egypt, and no one can be sure that it will not be closed again in the future.

BP giant tanker jetty as long-term plan.
The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Jul 18, 1967; pg. 21; Issue 56996.

Category: Business and Finance

Gale Document Number:CS352808178

Israel's claim to use of Canal

Aim of sending boats

From MICHAEL WOLFERS—Tel Aviv, July 18

Official Israel sources were today reticent about the purpose of Israel boats in the Suez Canal area, that had caused a complaint by Egypt. The boats, described by the Egyptians as landing craft, might more fairly be described as motor boats.

Though as an Israel Army spokesman told me, in the Suez Canal any boat could be called a landing craft.

I saw several of the boats in Sinai yesterday on carriers which had taken them overland from Israel to the occupied part of Egypt.

Though soldiers in the area said preparations were being made for the launching of the boats and the approach roads were closed to civilians, Army sources here said there were no indications of any launching. The spokesman believed that if boats were launched the Egyptians would fire on them.

Israel's diplomatic view on the access to the Canal in present circumstances is that if Egypt is to use the Canal Israel has the same right.

On this view, the boats are being held as a precaution, so that if Egypt makes any significant use of the blocked Canal, Israel would be in a position to show her presence in the Canal with armed boats.

The return of refugees from the east bank of the Jordan river for compassionate reasons, in advance of next month's main body, was carefully managed today. Some 50 returning families were met by a medical team with four ambulances and transport. They were given food and drink and were interrogated.

International Red Cross officials are distributing 10,000 request forms to heads of families of former west bank residents and their return will await the vetting of the forms by Israel authorities.

Another ship for Soviet force

From STEWART HARRIS

CAIRO, JULY 18

President el-Azhari of Sudan, the last of the visiting Arab heads of State to leave Cairo after their weekend conference, departed today for Khartum, where the Arab Foreign Ministers are expected to meet within two weeks. President al-Atassi of Syria left last night for Damascus.

The arrival tomorrow of Mr. Chagla, the Indian Foreign Minister, is evidence to support those who believe that President Nasser will keep Egypt on a non-aligned course, however dramatic other evidence may seem at the moment. For example, President Nasser saw Mr. Jacob Malik, the Soviet deputy Foreign Minister, again last night, and the Russian Ambassador today.

Another Soviet destroyer arrived at Alexandria yesterday, and Rear-Admiral Moloshov, commander of the visiting Russian fleet, was expected in Cairo today. Within the next six months, according to *Al Ahram*, the Soviet Union will be shipping the following commodities to Egypt:—350,000 tons of wheat, 30,000 tons of sugar, 10,000 tons of margarine, 5,000 tons of fats, and five million cans of meat.

Tunisia's advice

TUNIS, July 18.—President Bourguiba of Tunisia today urged all Arabs to change their policy towards Israel in order to gain eventual victory. He advised a concerted long-term strategy based on "pressures and concessions in order to break the opponent", but he did not go into details.—*Reuter.*

Moscow reticent on Arab talks

Moscow, July 18.—Soviet and Arab leaders tonight reaffirmed their stand that Israel must withdraw from occupied territories as the first move towards peace in the Middle East.

In line with previous statements after meetings between Soviet and Arab leaders since the war, however, there was no mention of agreement on ways to force Israel to pull back.

Colonel Boumedienne and President Arif arrived in Cairo tonight to report to President Nasser on their Moscow talks.

President Nasser met them at the airport and took them to his home. —*Reuter.*

Israel's claim to use of Canal.
From MICHAEL WOLFERS

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Jul 19, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 56997.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67333363

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From STEWART HARRIS

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Jul 19, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 56997.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67464435

Row in Delhi over Arab policy

FROM PETER HAZELHURST

DELHI, JULY 18

In a bitter debate, with members challenging India's pro-Arab policy in the Middle East crisis, Mrs. Gandhi, the Prime Minister, was forced to intervene today and apologize to Parliament for Mr. Chagla, the Foreign Affairs Minister, who had accused an Opposition member of "assassinating the character of our country".

The Government's policy on the Middle East has been under heavy fire from both the Opposition and members of the ruling Congress Party for two days, and Mr. Chagla was answering a most biting attack which came from a Prain Socialist party member, Mr. Nath Pai, this morning.

Mr. Nath Pai had questioned India's future prestige as a non-aligned nation because of her pro-Arab partisanship policy during the Israel-Arab conflict. In a speech applauded by the Opposition and by Government members, Mr Nath Pai said: "Aggression, like beauty, is in the eyes of the seer". He accused the Government of pursuing a policy which had harmed the prestige and image of India, reducing the United Nations to helplessness. "When the war is over in Sinai there will be an epitaph on one of the tombs: 'Here lies the non-alignment of India'".

Had India remained impartial it could have done something towards peace in the area, he said. Mr. Nath Pai was echoing the sentiments of several members of the Lok Sabha, who have attacked pro-Arab partisanship during the two-day debate on external affairs.

Personal attack

Mr. Chagla, stung to anger by the attack, began his reply on foreign policy with a personal assault on Mr. Nath Pai. He said he had seen personal assassination in the House before, but he was "sorry to say I have heard today the character assassination of our country indulged in by Mr. Nath Pai."

The Opposition protested in an uproar, shouting down the Prime Minister while the Deputy Speaker insisted that Mr. Chagla withdraw his statement. After 20 minutes Mrs. Gandhi stood up to apologize.

Obviously shaken by the hubbub Mr. Chagla continued with his reply, which had lost its initial tone of confidence. He said non-alignment should not be confused with neutrality. The present policy was dictated by the justice of the Arab cause and India's interest.

"It is in our national interest to see we have friendly relations with the Middle East," he declared.

Mr. Chagla explained this interest in terms of trade, oil and strategic position, adding: "It is essential for India to see the Suez Canal remains friendly."

Disi?lusionment

Explaining why India supported the non-aligned resolution on west Asia in the General Assembly, he said: "It is important, not only with reference to the present conflict but to the future also, that no aggressor should be permitted to retain the fruits of aggression and that no aggressor should be permitted to negotiate from strength derived from military conquest."

Interjection and uproar continued throughout his speech and one member was heard to say "You would swear this was an Israeli Opposition".

Disillusionment with India's pro-Arab stand in the Middle East crisis has been growing lately and is dictated by two basic reasons. The man in the street feels that India is backing the wrong horse, and the survival of the Arabs means a strong and hostile Muslim block, which would lend force to Pakistan.

'50 killed in gas raid on Yemen

ADEN, July 18.—Egypt aircraft dropped gas bombs on the town of Hajjah in north-west Yemen last Saturday killing 50 people, Yemen royalist sources said here today.

They said a further 175 victims were classified as "hopeless" and that more than 200 others had suffered severe injuries.

The sources said that Egypt gas raids over Yemen now totalled 22.

British Intelligence sources said earlier this month that 45 people were killed on July 2 when two Egypt Ilyushin bombers dropped high explosive and gas bombs on Beni Sahm village, south of Wadi Khiran.—*Reuter.*

Leading article, page 11.

Refugees recross the Jordan

FROM NICHOLAS HERBERT

BEIRUT, JULY 18

The first Arab refugees to return officially to Israel-occupied territory crossed the River Jordan today under the eyes of the International Red Cross. A total of 146 members of 50 families tramped over the makeshift Allenby Bridge some 1,000 feet below sea level.

They were among those whose cases were considered urgent. Others will have to wait until August 10 to cross, and even then only if their applications are approved.

Today's movement was orderly in contrast to the confusion when thousands of refugees came flooding over from west to east during and after the war. This time the refugees arrived in buses on the Jordan side and filed over family by family as their names were called out over a loudspeaker on the Israel bank. An International Red Cross team, sitting under a large flag on the middle of the bridge, checked the identity of each as he passed.

Israel speaks of tens of thousands of refugees returning after the August 10 deadline for filing applications, but it remains to be seen whether the procedures laid down will serve to discourage many. Refugees will have to furnish documentary evidence of their identity and their address on the west bank and will have to satisfy health and security requirements.

Row in Delhi over Arab policy.
FROM PETER HAZELHURST

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Jul 19, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 56997.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67857651

GAS WARFARE IN YEMEN

Another report of an Egyptian air attack on a Yemeni village with poison gas will once again prompt the question why the United Nations is not made to take action. It has been asked at intervals by correspondents in *The Times*, the latest of whom is LORD DALKEITH today. To questions in Parliament, MR. GEORGE BROWN has said that it is for one of the Arab countries to take the matter up. But obviously they are not going to. Not even Saudi Arabia, the most nearly concerned, is going to stir up an inter-Arab row which would divert attention from Israel. Egypt continues to deny that it is using gas and would dispute any evidence produced.

Herein lies the difficulty. In June, just before the Arab-Israel war began, the International Red Cross cautiously confirmed that gas had been used in Yemen. Most people who read all the reports—uneven as they are—will be more than satisfied with the circumstantial evidence. But proof that will stand up in legal proceedings is, in the British official view, hard to establish. It is almost necessary for an attack to be witnessed by an unquestionable authority, and certainly necessary for the victims to be examined soon after being struck down. The value of gas as a weapon for Egypt is that it can be economically and effectively employed against remote centres of royalist opposition where troops and civilians have no means to counter it and little to record it.

Proof to sustain a case in the United Nations, or at The Hague under the Geneva convention, is thus hard to get. For a charge to be brought, and not overwhelmingly proved, could do the Yemeni villagers no good. Nevertheless, much more should be done to seek such proof. It is dangerous as well as disgusting that any country should be allowed to get away with a flagrant breach of the Geneva convention merely because it operates so far from world scrutiny. Egypt did not try gas against Israel, though Israel's order of gas masks from Germany showed that the possibility was recognized. Even so the Yemen precedent is full of menace. There may be other places where the use of gas offers governments a tempting answer to guerrilla activity. The behaviour of Egypt, always so quick to accuse others of atrocities, needs determined investigation.

Gas Warfare In Yemen.
The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Jul 19, 1967; pg. 11; Issue 56997.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS185036019

POISON GAS IN YEMEN

From Lord Dalkeith, Conservative M.P. for Edinburgh, North

Sir,—The letter from Colonel David Smiley (July 14) will no doubt have provoked intense feelings of sorrow and indignation among many of your readers, despite the admirably calm and unemotional way in which he reported the facts concerning the Egyptian use of poison gas in the Yemen.

That such an atrocity can be perpetrated against innocent Arab civilians by a nation with a supposedly enlightened regime seems almost incredible. That no one should raise a murmur of protest at the United Nations, save Saudi Arabia, whose muted whispers were ignored, seems still more incredible. Yet this is not for lack of evidence from the International Red Cross and other sources.

It might be unreal to expect any Arab state to rock the boat of Arab unity at this delicate moment, but why should our Foreign Secretary be content to wring his hands in anguish at the Dispatch Box instead of taking some initiative at the U.N.? Even a force of U.N. observers, effectively deployed, might suffice to deter the Egyptians from committing further inhuman acts of barbarism. And why does not Mr. Wilson send a gritty purposeful message of protest to President Nasser, even if only to show that the British sense of justice is not yet dead?

And where now are all the self-appointed judges of moral righteousness whose voices are seldom silent in their condemnation of lesser crimes against civilization in countries such as South Africa and Rhodesia? Or have world politics reached such a deplorable state of imbalance between Left and Right that Left-wing governments can do no wrong? And could anything be more horribly wrong than using phosgene and mustard gas against women and children?

And where does Egypt obtain her supplies of this diabolical weapon? Does she make it herself or is it provided for her by the same friendly power that provides her with the means for its delivery?

These questions need to be asked and answered. Surely the right place and the right time is the United Nations—NOW.

Yours faithfully,

DALKEITH.

House of Commons, July 17.

Poison Gas In Yemen.
DALKEITH. House of Commons. July 17

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Jul 19, 1967; pg. 11; Issue 56997.

Category: Letters to the Editor

Gale Document Number:CS185822451

Egypt pound rate doubled by Israel

TEL AVIV, JULY 18

Israel has doubled the exchange rate of Egyptian pound to the Israel pound. From tomorrow the new rate will be six Israel pounds to one Egyptian instead of three to one.

Officially the reason is to increase the purchasing power of Gaza strip residents and therefore their purchases from Israel, but unofficially it is because the International Monetary Fund is reported to have strongly recommended such a move when Mr. David Horowitz, Governor of the Bank of Israel, discussed the situation in Washington recently.

Another move expected shortly is the raising of the exchange rate fixed by Israel for the Jordanian dinar. The present rate in Israeli-occupied areas of Jordan is I£7.5 to one dinar and the I.M.F. insists it should be equal to the pound sterling—that is, I.£8.4. to the dinar.

Egypt pound rate doubled by Israel.
The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Jul 19, 1967; pg. 22; Issue 56997.

Category: Business and Finance

Gale Document Number:CS370371827

TIMES PAST

THE TIMES

PRINTING HOUSE SQUARE, LONDON, E.C.4. TELEPHONE: 01-236 2000

LOOKING FOR A START

Today members of Parliament in Westminster and delegates to the General Assembly in New York turn their attention once again to the problems of the Middle East. They will do this without any real hope of producing new or useful ideas, or even any hope that, if they did so, the peoples most concerned would listen to them. It is five weeks since the main fighting stopped, and nowhere in the Middle East has there been a change of regime or has a regime changed its policy. Most of the time the same people say the same things, just as if there had never been a war.

As time goes by it is going to be increasingly hard to alter any of the *faits accomplis* of the war. Israel holds the fruits of victory—Sinai and Gaza, the West Bank of Jordan, and the Syrian border hills. She could theoretically be dislodged by Russian intervention or by the sort of extreme American pressure which PRESIDENT EISENHOWER used to get MR. BEN-GURION out of Sinai in 1956. There is no chance either of these happening. Nor is it likely that the General Assembly will vote for sanctions, or that these could be accepted by the Security Council and effectively applied.

So the alternatives appear to be that Israel sits tight, or that negotiations of a sort start somewhere, when automatically Israel's territorial gains would come into the bargaining. This has all along been the Israelis' position. They are interested in two things—territory and recognition. They will talk about both together, but not about territory alone. As GENERAL DAYAN said more than a month ago, if the Arabs did not want to sit down at a conference table, "then we will simply stay where we are".

This being so, time would seem to be wholly on Israel's side. The longer the Israelis stay in possession the more used they become to it and the more used the world will be to seeing them there. The Kashmir parallel is an obvious one, though there is no sign that the Arabs have drawn a lesson from it. It is sometimes argued that economic pressures will change this—that the Arabs will not for ever put up with the loss of revenues from oil and commerce. But there are plenty of examples of a lowered standard of living being allowed to drag on for political reasons (MOUSSADEK'S Iran, SUKARNO'S Indonesia), and most Arab states could still improve their lot without going to Israel's conference table.

Most, but not all. Jordan and Egypt have both suffered enormously in land and revenues. Jordan, the worse hit, is still in a state of shock, but knows that it cannot just let events take their course. It faces a double threat—that some sort of *de facto* administration under Israel's tutelage will emerge on the West Bank, and that the East Bank will be forced into political dependence on one of its Arab neighbours. Hence KING HUSAIN'S efforts to stir the other Arab governments into activity.

Egypt's position is much more complex. There is deadlock over the Suez Canal. Israel wants it opened to Israel ships or not at all, which Egypt still refuses to admit. So the world has to be ready for a Canal indefinitely blocked, or again fought for and perhaps even taken over by Israel.

The elements of an arrangement—if not of an actual settlement—which would at least give the Middle East some appearance of order can be seen from London and New York, and probably from Moscow too. What nobody has yet been able to see is the first step towards such an arrangement. If Israel took the initiative, and outlined what it would give in return for at least tacit recognition, some Arabs would probably listen. In the long run a policy of just holding by force what it has gained by force would be only too likely to lay the seeds for a new explosion.

Looking For A START.
The Times (London, England),Thursday, Jul 20, 1967; pg. 9; Issue 56998.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS151219444

HINT OF APPROACH TO ISRAEL

Mr. Chagla meets President Nasser

From STEWART HARRIS—Cairo, July 20

"There doesn't seem any prospect of any advance to final settlement until Israeli troops are withdrawn", Mr. Chagla, the Indian Foreign Minister, said here today after meeting President Nasser.

He was speaking in his suite in the Nile Hilton hotel before flying to Yugoslavia for talks with Marshal Tito.

"You look happy, sir," I said. "Does this mean Egypt is still very much non-aligned?"

With proper contempt for any innuendo in the question, he said firmly: "The United Arab Republic is non-aligned, socialist, and progressive."

A cease-fire and a withdrawal could not by themselves solve the problem which has resulted in three wars in 20 years, but the longer withdrawal is delayed the longer a settlement would take.

When it was suggested that secret, indirect soundings would have to take place long before a withdrawal, Mr. Chagla agreed that Israel could not withdraw overnight.

There were mechanics involved in the business, he said. Meanwhile there was nothing to prevent the Security Council from discussing the problem before withdrawal.

I got the feeling, however, that he was acknowledging that private, secret talks might be useful, even at this stage, with Arab leaders.

Muhammad Mahgoub, Prime Minister of the Sudan, and Mr. Malik, Deputy Foreign Minister of the Soviet Union, also left Cairo today.

Russian show of frustration

From KYRIL TIDMARSH

Moscow, JULY 20

Soviet frustration at the United Nations General Assembly's failure to secure an Israel withdrawal from captured Arab territory was evident in an official Tass statement tonight.

Further collisions brought about by Israel's "impudence and irresponsibility", it said, ran the risk of widening hostilities and threatening international security. Israel was seeking to gain permanent possession of the occupied territories, and the western powers were opposing adoption of a withdrawal resolution in the United Nations because this would mean abandoning their aggressive purposes.

Hint Of Approach To Israel.
From STEWART HARRIS-

The Times (London, England),Friday, Jul 21, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 56999.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68119797

On the motion for the adjournment.

SIR ALEC DOUGLAS-HOME (Kinross and West Perth, C.), initiating a debate on foreign affairs, said it was a sad reflection on man and the progress of civilization that any review of international affairs by the Foreign Secretary must almost inevitably be a catalogue of disputes and wars. It almost made one despair of man's claim to be a creature of reason.

A typical example was the rumour broadcast by propaganda machine that Britain and the United States had intervened in the Egypt-Israel war. Within hours that charge was proved to be untrue.

There are, I think, signs of a recovery of poise, but nevertheless the warning must be given—that if this kind of irresponsibility is going to govern international relations, then there will be no peace. What is more, the chief victims will be the new and developing nations.

Cause and source

What was the cause (he continued) and who was the source of all the unrest and outbreaks of violence in so many parts of the world? He was not one of those who saw a Communist under every bush. For many years he had done his best to seek coexistence and reconciliation between the two points of view.

Nevertheless, they must face facts and look at the world as it was and ask what was the source of the present trouble which was so rife that it led to the conclusion that the world was in a severe malaise.

Who fomented riots and brinkmanship in Hongkong?

Who engineered the near-takeover in Indonesia?

Who compelled India to consider arming herself with nuclear weapons?

Who, when the rest of the world tried to find a peaceful solution to the Middle East situation, ostentatiously armed Syria and Egypt for the purpose, openly advertised, of a second round of war?

Who undermined the authority of newly independent Governments in Africa, saying that the continent was ripe for revolution?

Who had turned the evolutionary process of emancipation of colonial territories from colonial rule into a mad economic, political, and chaotic rush?

Who financed revolutions through Cuba?

And who prevented the United Nations from effective peacekeeping activities?

The answer, reluctant as one is to say so (he continued), is that these policies are fomented in the one case by the Soviet Union or in the other by Communist China.

The actions were so consistent and so continuing that there was no alternative but to take them as hard evidence of the intentions of these two countries towards a free world.

Duel for succession

A criticism of the defence White Paper was that the £2,000m. was called the general and not the Foreign Secretary's concept of the strategic foreign policy of Britain, which had taken second place.

The Government, in spite of the lessons in Malta and Aden, had made an error in indicating a date of withdrawal from Singapore. From the moment a Government said they were to leave some territory and withdraw, both friends and potential enemies began to think in terms of the successor to the United Kingdom.

In view of the intention to slash the Army and Air Force the decision to scrap the aircraft carrier seemed almost inexplicable.

The Government's proposals lacked credibility in relation to the commitments accepted which, in turn, were related to threats from a potential enemy. In this respect, the White Paper caused considerable anxiety.

The Government were right to give priority to the security of Britain and the security of the continent of Europe. With the consent he thought of the majority of both parties Britain's purpose was to create a more cohesive unit of Europe, economically and politically, and, he noted, the Foreign Secretary had lately added, militarily.

The latter concept could only be advanced gradually, the idea of an integrated European defence force not being acceptable to France. Reduction of forces in Germany would only be acceptable to Germany if there was an alternative.

It should not be impossible to work out the special relationship with the United States with the cooperation of the French and Americans and, perhaps, with a kind of McNamara concept to which the Germans might agree.

It would be a mistake to define it at present; it must be taken gradually. The Foreign Secretary was right when he mentioned the possibility of Europe taking a greater responsibility for its own defence.

The use of gas by the Egyptians was nothing short of an international scandal in that it had not been taken up actively in the United Nations. It was almost as great a scandal that the British Government would not initiate action in the United Nations.

Specious argument

He asked whether in South-East Asia the security of the Commonwealth countries no longer counted in the Government's calculations.

One of the arguments for withdrawal which I find most specious (he said) is that countries of South-East Asia are more likely to get their independence if European and United States protection is removed.

Would anyone who believed that say it to the Tibetans? Would they get the people of Malaysia, who knew that if Britain had not protected them Indonesia would have overrun them, to accept it?

One day it might be true that these countries could protect themselves, but it was not true yet. When that day came, he hoped they would protect themselves in a security system of Asian for Asian. This was why he was constantly urging the Foreign Secretary to make the initiative to get an Asian nucleus in Seato.

The Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Defence were jointly responsible for the security of Britain and Britain's role in the world. They were leaving the Foreign Secretary with no recognizable foreign policy at all unless he was extremely careful.

Foreign Secretary on decision to leave Singapore and Malaya

MR. GEORGE BROWN, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Belper, Lab.), said the world situation, beset as it was by wars and dangers of escalation of wars, called more surely than ever for an effective world authority. There was only one practical road to that goal—to make the most they could of the United Nations.

That is why the basis of our foreign policy (he said) is to give wholehearted support to the United Nations, to back it up, to be guided by its decisions, and to play our part fully in building up the authority which it needs.

The United Nations in the Middle East had provided the means of dealing with the immediate practical problems of the cease-fire and of refugees, and it was still the organization which provided the essential diplomatic framework within which a settlement of the Arab-Israel dispute could and should be reached.

The Security Council must now take the problem back from the General Assembly, and take up its work of getting on with the task of working out the answers. The Government would play its full part in that.

In the present disturbed situation in the Middle East, they must be particularly concerned about the stability and security of the Persian Gulf. The long-term aim was to create a situation in which the small states of the area could stand on their own feet.

We propose (he went on) to keep a small force there to meet our obligations. But I would like to correct one widespread misapprehension—our forces are not in the Persian Gulf simply to protect our oil interests as such, but to maintain stability in the area.

Obligations to Seato

The decisions announced in the Defence White Paper did not mean that Britain was no longer concerned with the Far East and south-east Asia.

Britain would continue to honour her obligations, for example, to Seato; but their force declarations to Seato would be progressively altered in nature and in size. This would be worked out in detail over coming months.

They would have discussions with the Governments of Singapore and Malaysia about how they would meet their obligations there—which was, after all, to help in their external defence.

We shall be giving significant—and I underline the word significant—aid both to Singapore and to Malaysia to enable them to adjust their economies to the new state of affairs (he said).

We recognize that the countries in the area may still need our support, and consider that the best way for us to provide this is by helping them with the more sophisticated types of military equipment which we could contribute, but, if they had to acquire them alone, would be a heavy strain on their economies.

Peace for the asking

"South-East Asia" meant far more than the conflict in Vietnam. Indonesia had returned to the community of nations, and had achieved a new relationship of trust and friendship with her neighbours.

There was now the formidable problem of reestablishing Indonesia's economy. Together with her other western friends Britain was taking part in a series of international meetings to deal with this.

The enormous potential in south-east Asia could only be developed in an atmosphere of peace. The major obstacle to that was the war in Vietnam.

A solution had not been found because no one had managed to create conditions of confidence in which both sides could agree to take balanced steps towards negotiations.

I have tried every way I know (he said) to get it across to Hanoi that peace is there for the asking. A balanced peace, which alone can guarantee stability, needs a balanced approach to negotiations, and for this something must go into both sides of the scales.

If the North Vietnamese can show that something will go into the scales from their side, then I am absolutely sure that the American side will be filled with ample measure. The tragedy is that Hanoi remains silent.

Relations with China

Recently the cultural revolution had spilled over into foreign affairs in China. There was the serious question of the position of her Majesty's representatives at the British mission in Peking, which had been the object of several organized demonstrations. No attempt had been made by the Chinese authorities to restrict the demonstrators.

The House would join with him in paying tribute to the courage shown by the British Charge d'Affaires and staff in the trying circumstances. There was a growing tendency on the part of the Chinese Government to flout internationally long-accepted principles of diplomatic immunity. He found this extremely disturbing.

The Government had recently reminded the Chinese Government of their obligations and had unmistakably told them that they considered this to be a matter of fundamental importance in their relationship with China.

The Hongkong authorities had the full support of the Government in taking all necessary measures to maintain peace and security. Britain intended to fulfil her responsibilities to Hongkong, and take all measures needed to restore the situation, so that the Hongkong people could settle down again to their normal way of life.

On this basis (he said) we hope that our relations with China may return to their previous footing, to the mutual benefit of China, ourselves and Hongkong.

China was one of the great nations of the world, and that was why Britain had constantly and consistently supported the admission of China to the United Nations, and would continue to do so. China, by her behaviour in diplomacy and her attitude to the United Nations, seemed to be her own worst advocate.

We have made considerable efforts in the past (he said) to improve our relationships with China. We are willing to go on doing so. But all the efforts cannot come from one side. If China is interested in better relations, it is up to her to show it, and to recognize that such improvement cannot be based on action by us alone.

Gas in the Yemen

SIR A. DOUGLAS-HOME—Has the Foreign Secretary read the accounts that Egyptian officials in San'a are saying that if the Royalist Government does not capitulate, villages in the Yemen are going to be bombed with gas?

MR. BROWN.—I have read the reports. As I said the other day, this is something on which I think the initiative ought to be taken by the authorities of the country on whose territory it is happening. (Opposition cries of "Oh" and "Really".) I take the view that this is the right way to approach it. I do not think I would help by raising it, or getting it raised, on our initiative.

MR. THORPE (North Devon, L.)—Is the Foreign Secretary seriously suggesting that the Republican Government of the Yemen is going to raise at the United Nations the fact that poison gas is being used in its support? (Opposition cheers.)

MR. BROWN.—There are other Governments who are concerned. There are other Governments nearer the situation than we are. It is rather interesting that they do not raise it. Having considered it carefully, I have come to the conclusion that it simply would not help if this were to be an issue raised by Great Britain.

Britain strips

MR. PEEL (Leicester, South-East, C.) said that if Britain withdrew from south-east Asia and left a power vacuum, the Americans could not adequately fill it. Such action by the Government was asking for increased pressure on the peoples of that area and increased instability.

The Foreign Secretary was neglecting the example of one of his great predecessors in his own party who said that in no circumstances would he walk naked into the council chamber. Britain was steadily and not very slowly throwing her clothes away.

MR. MALCOLM MACMILLAN (Western Isles, Lab.) said that there was grave danger of Greece being swept behind the fascist curtain of Europe.

The international organizations should do everything possible to bring down the military junta in Greece.

The articles in *The Times* by a first class team of journalists, Stephen Clarke and his colleagues had played down the facts to make them more credible in this country. The peace of Europe, starting in Cyprus, could be threatened so long as the military junta was in control in Greece.

VISCOUNT LAMBTON (Berwick upon Tweed, C.) said that gas was being used in the Yemen against old people, women and children. He could not help thinking that the reason the Foreign Secretary had not pressed this case was because he did not wanto to offend Egypt.

MR. A. L. WILLIAMS (Hornchurch, Lab.) said there should not be a complete withdrawal from Singapore. A balance of power against China in which local forces would eventually play the major role must be built up with western support.

Britain must have mobile forces which could reach south-east Asia quickly and it was also necessary to have bases. If there was a withdrawal from Singapore the Americans would have to fill the vacuum.

MR. ELDON GRIFFITHS (Bury St. Edmunds, C.) said many Americans no longer felt sure that they could rely on the present British Government as a partner in their world strategy. The latest defence cuts announced in the White Paper seemed incomprehensible to America and Canada.

What they think behind the kind words (he said) is that Britain is beginning to settle behind a little England policy, a policy of give in, give up, and get out.

MR. PHILIP NOEL-BAKER (Derby, South, Lab.) said that the American intervened in the civil war in Vietnam without United Nations approval. Opposition members denounced Nasser for sending forces to the Yemen, and so did he. But Nasser dared to do do this only because the Americans had done it already in Vietnam.

Way to influence

MR. JAMES DAVIDSON (Aberdeenshire, West, L.) said that if Britain was to have any influence in the world and on international events, it was going to be through Europe and the United Nations and not through summit talks and special relationships however important these might be in some respects.

DR. DUNWOODY (Falmouth and Camborne, Lab.) said he had recently returned from a visit to South Vietnam. Britain should say to the American allies that if they increased rapidly the number of troops they had in South Vietnam there would be escalation of the war.

We should dissociate ourselves (he said) from this further involvement, in the same way as in the bombing of Hanoi.

LORD BALNIEL (Hereford, C.) said there was danger that if Britain became introspective, retired into her shell, and withdrew prematurely from the Far East, her isolationism could awaken an echo in the United States.

By fixing the date and time of withdrawal from the Far East, the Government were repeating the folly they committed in Aden. Surely it would be much better to fix the time of withdrawal not as a date but to conditions which applied in the Far East, and the advances made by Asian countries to stand up against the communist aggression they might face."

The United States might increasingly preoccupy herself with Asian affairs, and allow her links with Europe to languish.

MR. W. T. RODGERS, Under-Secretary, Foreign Office (Stockton-on-Tees, Lab.), said foreign policy would lack credibility if it were based on an unrealistic assessment of economic power or the willingness of the people to sacrifice living standards for an heroic world role.

Britain was, by and large, respected in south-east Asia. There was good will. Defence decisions did not mean that Britain was no longer concerned with the area and with the welfare of her friends.

It was for the people of Asia to make up their own minds about the direction and pace of their development. It would be a mistake to assume a fundamental resentment against the West.

The House adjourned at 12.19 a.m.

Haste over Companies Bill

The Companies Bill, which will provide the Board of Trade with powers to tackle defaulting insurance companies, speed investigations into company fraud, and force companies to make public disclosure of more of their affairs, was read the third time at 6.30 on Thursday morning after the second successive all-night sitting of the Commons, and the fifth in seven parliamentary days.

MR. DARLING, Minister of State, Board of Trade, who moved the third reading, apologized to members for the rush to get the Bill through its remaining Commons stages.

"The Government need it to go on the statute book as quickly as possible", he said. "If we did not have the powers given to us to deal with insurance companies, and some new scandals blew up in the summer, we would have great difficulty in defending any delay in action to the public who might be affected."

The few Conservative members—rarely after midnight did they reach double figures—who had taken part in the report stage discussions during the night congratulated Mr. Jay, President of the Board of Trade, and Mr. Darling for the way they had handled the Bill. MR. CORFIELD (Gloucestershire, South, C.) who had led for the Opposition on the Bill, expressed briefly the disquiet felt by himself and his colleagues at having been forced to consider so important a Bill through the night.

Drastic changes

MR. MICHAEL SHAW (Scarborough and Whitby, C.) recalled that when the Bill came originally from the Lords it had contained 45 clauses. It was now a 123-clause Bill, after 27 meetings of the Commons standing committee and two days and a night on the report stage.

I regard it as rather disturbing that a Bill of this character which is based on the Jenkins report of 1962, and which has had a dummy run through this House during the previous Parliament, should have been so dramatically changed during its progress", he said.

A plea was made by MR. TEMPLE (City of Chester, C.) that if the Lords made any amendments to the Bill the Commons would not afterwards have to consider them at six o'clock in the morning.

The House adjourned at 6.56, after a sitting of almost 21 hours with a break for luncheon on Wednesday. At 6.30 a.m. MR. MOLLOY (Ealing, North, Lab.) spoke about the need for adequate pedestrian facilities and children's crossings in Greenford and Northolt. He was answered by MR. SWINGLER, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Transport.

THE FINAL WEEK

MR. CROSSMAN, Lord President of the Council (Coventry, East, Lab.) announced the following business for next week:

MONDAY.—Opposition—Irish Sodiers and Soldiers Land Trust Bill, remaining stages; Leeds Amendment to Boundary Delegation; Leeds Amendment to Boundary Order; Perim and Kuria Muria Islands Bills.

AFTERNOON.—Debate on economic affairs, on an Opposition motion; Lords amendments to Iron and Steel Bill.

TUESDAY.—Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) (No. 2) Bill, second reading.

WEDNESDAY.—Morning—White Fish and Herring Subsidies Orders, Fishing Vessels Bill.

AFTERNOON.—Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) (No. 2) Bill, remaining stages; Lords amendments to Criminal Justice Bill.

THURSDAY.—Debate on motion to approve Defence White Paper on Defence.

FRIDAY.—Adjournment for summer recess.

Business in the House of Lords next week will be:—

MONDAY.—Antarctic Treaty Bill, third reading; Leasehold Reform Bill, report.

TUESDAY.—Lord Fraser of Lonsdale's question on provision of increased liability by creation of new paper credits or by taxation (to be answered by Lord Shackleton, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster); Commercial Subsidies.

Earl Jellicoe's motion on Defence White Paper.

Lord Mitchison's question on untruthful executive on farming statement.

WEDNESDAY.—At 11 a.m.: Consolidated Fund Bill, committee; Medical Termination of Pregnancy Bill, committee.

THURSDAY.—At 11 a.m.: Companies Bill, consideration of Commons amendments.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

HOUSE OF LORDS

TODAY, AT 11

Motion to approve National Coal Exports (Limit) Order; Iron and Steel Bill, remaining stages; Hong Kong Immigration Bill, second reading; Perim, Kuria Muria Islands and Kuria Muria Islands Bills; Leeds Amendment to Boundary Order; Leeds Amendment Bill, remaining stages.

TOMORROW: Dentists Bill and Wireless Telegraphy Bill, third reading; Bermuda Constitution Bill, and National Insurance (No. 2) Bill, committee stages; Appeals and Chain Cables Bill, third reading; Motion to approve Supplementary Pensions Determination of Requirements Regulations.

Lord Wedderburn to call attention to British nationals farming in Kenya.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

TODAY, AT 11

Fugitive Offenders Bill, Lords amendments; Adoption of Children Bill, Lords amendments; National Service (Armed Forces) Order; Orders for South Africa, South-West Africa and Rhodesia (Travel Control) Bill, remaining stages; Civil Amenities Bill, Lords amendments.

Foreign Secretary on decision to leave Singapore and Malaya.
The Times (London, England),Friday, Jul 21, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 56999.

Category: Politics and Parliament

Gale Document Number:CS84634869

ILLEGAL WAR METHODS

From Lord Brockway

Sir,—It is true that some investigations were made, under United Nations auspices, into the allegation that methods of warfare are being used both in the Yemen and Vietnam which are against international law.

Egypt denies that it is using poisonous gas in the Yemen, but the International Red Cross appears to have confirmed that it has done so. International law has no authority if no tribunal acts when allegations of breaches are made. If Egypt is innocent it is in her interests that an investigation be made. If Egypt is guilty it is in the interest of the world that any breach should be challenged before it becomes accepted practice.

The American forces in Vietnam have also been charged with using methods which are contrary to international law. These allegations are current throughout the world and it is in the interest of America that they should be authoritatively investigated. One further issue arises. Methods of warfare are now being adopted which have been developed since international prohibitions were laid down. Is it not time that a new code was chartered?

Yet, when this has been said, a sense of futility remains. Can war be humanized?

Yours, &c.,
BROCKWAY.

House of Lords, July 19.

Gas in the Yemen

From Lord Lambton, Conservative M.P. for Berwick-on-Tweed

Sir,—I would like to support the letters of Colonel David Smiley (July 14) and Lord Dalkeith (July 19), concerning the use of gas in the Yemen, whose interior I visited last February.

I would not have thought, sir, that it would have been difficult to sustain and prove the use of gas either at The Hague or the United Nations. The proof has always been there. But instead of seeking it out the British Government has apparently purposely closed its eyes to this flagrant violation of the Geneva Convention. And, as Lord Dalkeith pointed out, many Labour Members of Parliament appear to hold two standards, maintaining that nothing that a Right Wing Government can do is right, and nothing that any so-called Left Wing Government, even if it is in fact a military dictatorship, can do is wrong.

Perhaps the most unpleasant aspect of Egyptian aggression in the Yemen is that gas has been used frequently, not against front line troops, but against villages hundreds of miles from the area of combat mainly inhabited by women and children, whose husbands and fathers are in many cases in the Royalist army. Its purpose has been to discourage men from fighting by letting them know the results of their volunteering would be the death of their wives and children, who they know are without any means of defence and in many cases shelter.

There can be no arguments that condone this type of warfare. There can be no justification of the British Government's avoidance of this subject, caused apparently by its determination not to offend President Nasser.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
LAMBTON.

House of Commons.

VIETNAM ADVERTISEMENT

From Miss Margaret Gardiner

Sir,—I'm delighted to find that the advertisement on Vietnam that I was instrumental in organizing and that was signed by 71 well-known Americans has now evoked a reply which will have netted quite a tidy little catch of dollars for this country.

But I'm puzzled to know why these "thousands of citizens of the Midwestern United States and the city of Chicago, Illinois" who clubbed together—voluntarily—to pay for this illiterate and cliché-ridden document should have chosen to remain so completely faceless. There surely must have been at least one among them who could have taken open responsibility for their statement, as well as credit for that arduous body count and the adding up of all those small contributions? It was a formidable task—unless, of course, he had access to a computer.

But perhaps, after all, it wasn't quite so formidable: perhaps the task was lightened by some sizeable contribution from a source that they would prefer not to disclose and which it was convenient to mask in a general anonymity. I wonder.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET GARDINER.

35 Downshire Hill, N.W.3, July 16.

Illegal War Methods.
BROCKWAY. House of Lords, July 19 and LAMBTON. House of Commons

The Times (London, England),Friday, Jul 21, 1967; pg. 9; Issue 56999.

Category: Letters to the Editor

Gale Document Number:CS151743733

Egypt War Minister replaced

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

CAIRO, JULY 21

President Nasser today named Amin Howeidi, Egyptian Minister of State, as War Minister. He takes over from Abdul Wahab al Bishri who had held the post since the cabinet reshuffle of June 19.

Howeidi is a former army officer and Ambassador to Morocco and Iraq. He joined the government



Amin Howeidi, Egypt's new War Minister.

for the first time in 1956 when he was appointed Minister of Guidance.

Muhammad Hassanein Heykal, editor of the authoritative newspaper *Al Ahram*, today reiterated his call for an Arab summit conference to adopt unified action in the Middle East crisis. The recent meetings in Cairo of the heads of Iraq, Syria and Sudan had been necessary, as they involved leaders of the Arab countries which had been directly affected by the Arab-Israel war.

But other Arab states should join in forming a single front embracing the entire Arab nation, Heykal said. He called on the Arab countries to reconsider their relations with other states and to open new avenues for putting their cause.

Egypt War Minister replaced.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Jul 22, 1967; pg. 3; Issue 57000.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS51211510

Visa delay over sick captain

BY A STAFF REPORTER

The Port Line was waiting for visas from Egypt last night to allow a replacement crew to be sent to the vessel Port Invercargill, stranded in the Suez Canal with a seriously ill captain. The company applied several days ago for permission to send a relief crew but there appeared to have been a hold-up in Cairo, a spokesman said.

He did not know the gravity of the condition of the master, Captain Harry Conby, aged 50, who is reported to have been recommended for emergency treatment by an Egyptian doctor.

He and 43 of his crew have been on board the Port Invercargill in the Great Bitter Lake for more than six weeks, since the Canal was blocked during the Middle East war.

KIGOMA, TANZANIA.—Five African sailors drowned when an oil-carrying barge being towed down Lake Tanganyika during a fierce storm capsized and sank 3,000ft. to the bottom.

Visa delay over sick captain.
BY A STAFF REPORTER

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Jul 22, 1967; pg. 3; Issue 57000.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS51735798



President Nasser: Our gravest crisis.

Old guard must go —Nasser

FROM JEAN PIERRE JOULIN

CAIRO, JULY 23

President Nasser, in a nation-wide broadcast today on the fifteenth anniversary of Egypt's revolution, said the generation of leaders produced by it had to give way to new faces, and the military elite which had come to power after the revolution must return to civilian life. He said the task before the "old guard" was beyond its capacity, and "the obstinacy of our generation in keeping the reins of power will prevent the renewal of the people and the appearance of new leaders.

"If the front line created by the 1952 revolution succeeds in returning to civilian life, that will be the greatest victory of the revolution", the President said. "Our generation has provided leaders for the transition period. What is necessary now is that other generations step forward to take their place in the government of the country."

Referring to "the gravest crisis that our revolutionary action has faced", the President said one reason for it was that "imperialism's role this time was subtler than it had been in 1956".

"Indeed, we must face it, imperialism was able to camouflage skilfully its role in this aggression, leaving only its fingerprints. But, from such evidence, to affirm that imperialism was caught in the act —that is another question."

Israel battalions

President Nasser declared: "The crisis started with Israel's threat to invade Syria, and it was clear that Israel was working for powers which did not intend to tolerate progressive forces in this region." He added that Cairo was first informed by Damascus that 18 Israel battalions were massed on the Syrian frontier. The Egyptian Government checked these reports and found that there were "13 battalions" on the Syrian border.

President Nasser said that, on June 2, he foresaw Israel would attack in 48 to 72 hours, and told a meeting of the Egyptian high command that the first attack would be aimed at their air force. "The commander of the Egyptian Air Force was present", he stated.

He said tonight that he would not talk of the causes of the military setback suffered by Egypt. It would be the people's task to distribute blame when the "battle with the enemy" was finished— "but, to be sincere with myself, I must admit that in the last analysis the responsibility falls on me".

Suez Canal losses

He then stated that there was only one path ahead of them— that of continuing the struggle, which would be political and also economic. "The Suez Canal is closed and we are losing more than 110m. foreign pounds due to the closing of this waterway. . . . Our enemies say we will die of hunger. That is not true. . . . We will economize and we will find the necessary currency to buy wheat, while sacrificing less important imports."

He criticized the attitude of the Saudi Arabian press and radio, which, he said, had "incessantly attacked the U.A.R. and reproached its President for having submitted to the orders of President Johnson and Premier Kosygin, and for not having taken the initiative in military operations".

The Middle East news agency said President Nasser's speech was being transmitted to America via Telstar.—*Agence France Presse.*

Old guard must go-Nasser.
FROM JEAN PIERRE JOULIN

The Times (London, England),Monday, Jul 24, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 57001.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS17001720

LIGHTER SIDE OF GATHERING NEWS

PLEASURES OF A CAIRO CRISIS

By STEWART HARRIS

" From the chief censor, to wish you good luck ", said the message I received on returning to the hotel on my last night in Cairo. Where else in the world but Egypt would a chief censor do such a thing ?

One of the other censors used to bring me copies of *The Times*, which he got and I did not, because somebody else (also a charming censor) presumably abstracted them from my mail, on official instructions. It was irritating, but anyway I liked meeting him for luncheon in the little Egyptian Cultural Club, where he always brought a beautiful girl, different every day, and a breeze from the Nile cooled everything off, but warmed the beer. This club is a joy, because it is just as friendly as Egypt and full of every conceivable foreigner, much more U.N. than the real one in New York.

Unthinking machine

Life today can be really worrying for Egyptians with western connexions or relations, and some have been imprisoned, often for absurd reasons, by a machine which does not think; but there are places where Egyptians can feel quite safe and free to talk, and this is a blessing for a foreigner trying to understand their country.

Friends are easy to make among an emotional people, but they feel they cannot ask you home, and are shy of being seen in public restaurants with foreign friends. Telephones are tapped: but the office is safe enough, which means that an easy-going correspondent searching with increasing irresolution for news is likely to spend two hours in someone's office, drinking Turkish coffee, listening a lot, talking a bit, and finally discovering with a shock that the deadline for London copy is getting very close.

The other thing to do in Cairo if you are a foreign correspondent trying to fill in time is to seek specific information from some public servant. You meet a lot of delightful people this way.

I also spent some time in the Muggama, where an unusual breed of Egyptian is being evolved, with thoroughly unpleasant ways, because this is the building where public servants consider applications in a state which pretends to be socialist.

Scribes under umbrellas

It is very big and has been misplaced in Liberation Square. Outside, under beach umbrellas, sit a number of scribes who coach the *fellahs* through their application forms and there are also enterprising photographers taking little shots to go on the forms. Inside, it is like some ancient London railway station on the eve of August Bank holiday.

I do not recommend the Muggama, but I did manage to bring tears and a smile to the face of a colonel who lives there, by embracing him. This was after a dear old English lady, resident in Egypt 37 years, got a return visa, which meant that she could dare to take her holiday in Stanmore.

Now a list of the other things to do in Cairo if you are a foreign correspondent feeling frustrated. Look at wall posters. My favourite shows Israel in the form of a black beetle crawling inland across the coast towards two enormous Arab boots, one raised to kick. Swim or ride an Arab horse at the Gezira Club; in the pool you meet long distance swimmers practising in goggles and in the riding school some horsemen training under Captain Ibrahim. Go to Groppi's and watch old ladies eating ice cream and gossiping in French, or girls being watched by grateful men. Play snooker in the Turf Club, a small, bewildered dugout, founded very likely by Kitchener, Cromer and Gordon; the silver says " by appointment " and yet the inevitable President looks on as we eat steak and whisper. Sit in the Semiramis Hotel and observe a table of quiet Russians drinking beer and feeling far from home and taking quick looks at two superbly chic Algerian girls—nice people to be helping.

For adventure

For adventure, take a taxi-cab or a number 8 bus to the Pyramids. Five of us went together. *The Observer*, the *Daily Mail* and the *Daily Express* rode horses, the B.B.C. and *The Times* rode camels. If you want some peace, then walk along the Nile corniche at dusk and see the families who have come from their crowded city to breathe by their river, to sit on the green grass it gives them, and just to look at it. They eat their supper here, buying it from men selling corn cooked on charcoal, or beans, or plate-like bits of bread with salad. These are quite poor people, getting poorer, finding life a little harder day by day, and yet not noticing the Hilton hotel.

Pleasures Of A Cairo Crisis.
By STEWART HARRIS

The Times (London, England),Monday, Jul 24, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57001.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS69037304

Arabs agree to discuss summit

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

CAIRO, JULY 24

The Foreign Ministers of all Arab countries have agreed to meet in Cairo on August 1 to discuss united action against Israel. Reliable Arab sources said they would also consider plans for calling a meeting of Arab heads of state and Prime Ministers.

The Foreign Ministers are expected to work out plans for a complete economic boycott of Israel and a total ban on oil exports to the United States and Britain. Arab sources said they would also consider withdrawing Arab funds from American and British banks.

In his speech last night President Nasser emphasized the necessity of holding an Arab summit. The political, economic and military struggle to eliminate traces of Israel's aggression was not Egypt's alone, but that of every Arab, he said.

Egypt re-arming says Mr Eban

BY OUR DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Mr. Abba Eban, the Israel Foreign Minister, who is passing through London on his way home from the United Nations, said at a press conference yesterday that according to Israel information about half the air strength and rather less of the armoured strength of the Arab states had been restored.

"It was never Israel's policy to have an arms race", he said, "but if there had to be one, Israel was determined not to lose it."

He said he wished to rule out an armistice which could be a 20-year monstrosity. What Israel wanted was a normal pattern of international relations with the Arabs. "I don't mean affection", Mr. Eban said, "but peace as a juridical concept."

UN statement on Middle East

FROM OUR UNITED NATIONS CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK, JULY 24

Now that the United Nations General Assembly has, in effect, confessed defeat by handing the Middle East conflict back to the Security Council for further consideration, observers here are asking what new action can be expected. The answer at present seems to be: None.

Today a United Nations spokesman said no request had been received from any quarter for an early meeting of the council. Neither the Arabs nor the Soviet block seem in any hurry to start another round of fruitless debate, while Israel is, of course, standing pat until the Arabs are prepared to talk about recognition as well as withdrawal.

In effect, the stalemate continues.

Arabs agree to discuss summit.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Jul 25, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57002.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67857657

Nationalists agree to Aden talks

Telegram sent to UN

From IBRAHIM NOORI—Aden, July 25

The National Liberation Front (N.L.F.) announced today that it was prepared, if asked by the United Nations committee on colonialism, to send a delegation to the United Nations or anywhere else for talks on the future of South Arabia, which is due to become independent on January 9.

The announcement came as Sir Humphrey Trevelyan, the British High Commissioner for Aden and South Arabia, left London for New York to talk to the three-man United Nations mission on Aden.

This is the first time that the N.L.F., which in recent months has clearly been stealing the show from its rival, the Egyptian-backed Front for the Liberation of Occupied South Yemen (Flosy) has publicly taken a positive step to agree to talks while at the same time maintaining its anti-British violence in Aden.

Today's announcement came in a leaflet entitled *Flaming Hills* and datelined Crater, the scene of a bitter battle with British troops last month.

The N.L.F. said it was prepared to send a delegation only after it was certain that the British would carry out the United Nations resolutions without reservations and with an understanding of the "revolution". It said it had already sent a telegram to the chairman of the committee on colonialism in this connexion.

Sir Humphrey's journey to New York should have left no doubt with any political organization here about Britain's determination to seek the help of the United Nations in solving the South Arabian problem. The presence of Abdul Qawee Mackawee, the Flosy secretary-general, in New York last week is believed to have influenced the N.L.F.'s move.

Only four days ago, the N.L.F. sent a telegram to the committee on colonialism to say that because of recent developments in South Arabia it was unable to attend meetings in New York, and vowed to continue the "revolution".

The next day the N.L.F. issued a leaflet calling upon President Nasser to intervene to allow N.L.F. leaders who have been detained in Cairo for more than 10 months to leave Egypt.

'Bayoomi plot'

It said that the continued detention of N.L.F. leaders was not only affecting the nationalist movement but also the N.L.F.'s activity in the international sphere.

In its leaflet today, the N.L.F. said it would reject and resist any solution or compromise the United Nations mission might reach with the High Commissioner or any other party without the N.L.F. "the people's true representative". Britain, finding herself defeated and in a dilemma, was now resorting to the United Nations to seek a way out, it said.



Sir Humphrey Trevelyan, High Commissioner in Aden, leaving London yesterday for talks in New York with the United Nations mission to South Arabia.

Referring to the June 20 mutiny in the ranks of the South Arabian forces, the N.L.F. leaflet said that the High Commissioner "hastened to advise" the South Arabian Federal Government to ask Husain Ali Bayoomi to set up an interim administration. When the N.L.F. exposed the "Bayoomi plot" by kidnapping one of the seven people who had agreed to join the Bayoomi administration, Britain found no way out but to resort to the United Nations.

Mr. Bayoomi has not yet been able to obtain the approval of the Federal Supreme Council (Cabinet) to his list of candidates. Since it was submitted last week there have been intensive discussions between the Federal Ministers.

A federal ministerial delegation flew to Beihan for consultations with Sharif Husain bin Ahmad al-Habili, the South Arabian elder statesman, who from his desert fastness seems to be wielding power in Aden. The delegation had hardly returned when Mr. Bayoomi flew to Beihan today to talk with the Sharif.

Arabs shot dead

These crucial meetings will determine the fate of the Bayoomi administration, which is intended to replace the eight-year-old Federal Government. Sir Humphrey's able handling of the South Arabian political problem has, after all, actively stirred a stagnant situation.

An unidentified Arab today machine-gunned to death two Arabs at a bus stop, and stray bullets also wounded the driver and conductor of a bus in the Shaikh Othman district. Another Arab was wounded by a grenade thrown at a British security patrol in the same area.

Nationalists agree to Aden talks.
From IBRAHIM NOORI

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Jul 26, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57003.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67333370

EGYPT PRESSES FOR CANAL RIGHTS

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Tel Aviv, July 26

The impasse over the supervision of the Israel-Egypt cease-fire and navigation in the Suez Canal remained unresolved today after a meeting here between General Odd Bull of Norway, U Thant's representative for cease-fire affairs, and General Moshe Dayan, the Israel Defence Minister.

The Egyptians have baulked at fixing a cease-fire line and have threatened to shoot Israel craft navigating the Canal, while insisting on the right of Egyptian craft to use the waterway. The Israelis want a cease-fire line running either through the middle of the canal or along the respective banks, with the canal itself a sort of no-man's water.

Small craft sail

General Dayan had agreed earlier to General Bull's proposal that both sides refrain from using the canal for navigation, but he was informed today that the Egyptians had rejected it.

Egyptian sabotage has blocked the waterway to commercial navigation, but both sides have sailed small craft along the coasts. The Israelis have several boats in the water but have not sailed them since General Bull made his proposal last week.

The Egyptians have sent boats to service foreign freighters stranded in the Great Bitter Lake without Israel interference. Otherwise no movement has been observed here.

Israelis appeared sanguine about tensions on the Suez front. General Rabin, Chief of Staff, said this week: "It is much easier to defend the country from the present lines than it was before the war."

An aspect that delights Israelis is that for the first time in the 19 years' history of Israel-Arab border friction, there is no Israel city, village or settlement within range of enemy guns.

On the domestic front, there was an impasse in the political struggle for the future leadership of Israel and the central committee of the ruling Mapai Party adjourned last night without voting on proposals to merge with the Ahdut Haavodah and Rafi Parties.

There is no opposition to a merger with Ahdut Haavodah, but there are difficulties about an agreement with Rafi, whose leaders have hardly concealed their intention of capturing the party from within and replacing Mr. Eshkol as Premier by General Dayan.

Israel tests of British tanks

By CHARLES DOUGLAS-HOME
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

Two British Chieftain tanks are coming to the end of rigorous evaluation trials in Israel. The Israel Army has been testing the 45-ton battle tank—which is being delivered to armoured regiments in the Rhine Army—with a view to augmenting their mixed force of Centurions, Shermans, and French AMX tanks, all 20 years old or more.

The tanks were not actually committed to battle during the war last month because the Israelis are more interested at present in testing their handling characteristics and behaviour in the Middle East climate and terrain. The tests have been going on for several months and their results are awaited with interest in Britain, where the only available material concerns a limited desert trial undergone by the Chieftain last year in South Arabia.

The Israelis almost certainly want to buy more Centurion tanks—armed with the 105mm. British-made gun which proved so successful in the desert campaign. They also appear to be keen to acquire a limited quantity of Chieftains, which cost about £95,000 each, to equip their armoured divisions with at least a few units of the latest generation of tanks.

Egypt Presses For Canal Rights.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Jul 27, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57004.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67464443

ALGERIANS ON ISRAEL BORDER

SYRIA GOING ON TO WAR FOOTING

From PETER NICHOLS—BEIRUT, July 27

Syria is to have its Government reorganized in the next few days on a war footing, according to press reports here. The Syria border is still closed to British and other western visitors.

The reshuffle is understood to mean that Dr. Nureddin Atassi, the head of state and secretary-general of the governing Baath Party, is to take over the Prime Minister's office.

The reports say that his new Government will include representatives not only of the Baath Party but of the other "nationalist and progressive" forces in Syria, with the principal mission of facing "the present situation and mobilizing all efforts for eliminating the consequences of aggression, as well as foiling imperialist schemes for striking at the nationalist regime in Syria and in other liberal Arab states".

The "progressive forces" are not identified and it is not clear whether the Syrian followers of President Nasser will now be invited to a share of responsibility even, if the Baath Party keeps control over the important Ministries.

King's intentions

On the face of it the Syrians are doing much the same as other Arab countries in the aftermath of the war with Israel. President Nasser has already formed a new Cabinet and Iraq has done the same. Jordan almost had a new Cabinet a week ago, but at the last moment King Husain decided to ask Mr. Saad Jumaa to remain in office.

This was interpreted as meaning the King had not yet made up his mind what he wished to do, did not yet wish to reveal his hand, or had not found the ministers ready to deal with a changed situation.

If the news from Damascus is confirmed, Dr. Atassi will become the third head of state in the Arab world to lead his own government. The others are President Nasser and Colonel Houari Boumédienne, who is chairman of the Algerian Revolutionary Council as well as Prime Minister.

The connexion need by no means be regarded as fortuitous. For a week now the rumours have been strong here that a detachment of Algerian troops went at the beginning of last week to Syria. Originally the figure was given as 400. In popular estimate, it has grown to several thousands.

They are said to be quite heavily armed, more than for simple guerrilla warfare. The point of interest is why they have been sent to Syria.

Doubts on summit

Only one explanation seems rational. Colonel Boumédienne is now openly regarded as President Nasser's rival for the leadership of the socialist element in the Arab world. His disadvantage was that he had no physical contact with the centre of the Arab struggle which, quite obviously, is on the borders with Israel.

Syria, with its left wing, anti-west regime, was the place in which to put right this lack. The Algerian leader now, it seems, has some forces of indeterminate strength near the Israel border.

According to popular rumours, they have been there for about a week. They have done nothing except let it be known that they are there.

The Arab frame of mind is still confused. It is now far from certain that the summit meeting of all the Arab leaders will take place. On balance today it looks as if it will not. The chances of a summit will provide much of the matter for discussion of the Arab Foreign Ministers, who are due to meet in Khartum on Monday.

A great deal has been heard of the plan discussed by the United States and Jordan which envisages the withdrawal of Israel troops from the territory taken last month in exchange for a peace treaty to include Israel's right to free passage through the Suez Canal and the Gulf of Aqaba. This plan was repeated yesterday by the retiring Jordan Ambassador in Washington, who commended it personally—and courageously—in an interview.

The lines of this agreement have already appeared in the pro-Egypt press here, but expressed in such a way as to suggest that the Americans were being peremptory in their demands and refusing to listen to anything but complete acceptance, and were thus inviting rejection.

There is evidently a long way to go before a genuinely influential Arab ruler—and for the moment that means President Nasser—could accept to cut through the webs of prejudice and agree to any such offer.

Small touches of hope can be found in such reports that King Hussain, in his secret speech to the Jordan National Congress on Tuesday, said President Nasser had asked him not to break relations with Britain and the United States: that contacts at official level between Arab countries and the United States are said to be continuing: and that President Nasser, in his speech at the weekend, said pointedly, that he was not opposed to discussions with the United States.

Syria Going On To War Footing.
From PETER NICHOLS

The Times (London, England),Friday, Jul 28, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57005.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67726588

PARLIAMENT—continued from page 5

Moves to open Suez Canal

SIR ALEC DOUGLAS-HOME (Kinross and West Perth, C.) asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs for a statement about the opening of the Suez Canal to international shipping.

MR. GEORGE BROWN (Belper, Lab.).—As the House is aware, the Canal is blocked between Port Said and Ismailia, as well as to the south of Ismailia, and it is also obstructed between the Great Bitter Lake and Suez.

I deplore that no steps have yet been taken by the United Arab Republic authorities, either alone or in conjunction with others who are willing to help, to start work on clearing the obstructions. The continued failure to take these steps is clearly contrary to the intentions of the Constantinople Convention of 1888.

This is not a matter which affects this country alone. I am in close touch with the governments of other countries affected, and am considering with them how we can create conditions to get the canal opened as soon as possible to the shipping of all nations. I have discussed this matter with the Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister for Foreign Affairs and with the Israeli Foreign Minister.

I have also made it clear in the United Nations General Assembly that in our view any settlement of the problems of the Middle East must cover the right of free and innocent passage through the canal. As the House knows, the United Nations is urgently tackling these problems; and in this connexion the stationing of United Nations observers in the area is a useful first step.

SIR A. DOUGLAS-HOME.—Is it not a fact that Egypt recognizes the jurisdiction of the International Court in these matters? Is there not something to be said for taking out an injunction against Egypt requiring them to reopen the canal?

MR. BROWN.—There are difficulties in taking that course. If I may remind the right hon. gentleman he was in my job before, and he did not accept the responsibility or agree to accept the authority of the International Court in matters affecting this kind of situation. (Ministerial cheers.)

I am a little inhibited by the decisions made by predecessor Governments—(Opposition cries of protest)—but, apart from that, I do not think this would be a very good course to pursue. I think we are doing better in the way we are currently acting. (Opposition laughter.)

SIR A. DOUGLAS-HOME.—Might I release the Foreign Secretary from any feelings of inhibition he might have—(Opposition laughter)—and will he give one more thought to this matter? This seems to me to be the proper way to proceed.

MR. BROWN.—When one is in Opposition it is easy to release the Government of the day from the inhibitions which previous Ministers place on it.

The British Government, in the past, has, I regret to say, put the very inhibitions on the use of the International Court which would allow Egypt to claim that these inhibitions were used by us.

But that apart, we are much more likely to achieve the purposes we both have in mind by pursuing the political steps we are now making.

MR. THORPE (North Devon L.) asked how many British nationals were still in the Bitter Lake. Were the southern approaches blocked structurally or politically? When was the Foreign Secretary going to do something more about this than just consideration and talk?

MR. BROWN said the number of people in ships in the Bitter Lake was not that many. In the last three days a Canadian diplomat visited the ships to see the masters and the crews, and he satisfied himself about their conditions.

We are in touch with the owners about replacing crew members who want to come home (he said) and this will be done. On the physical obstructions in the south, I do not think it is physical in the south

MR. PAGET (Northampton, Lab.). — The time is rapidly approaching when we should say to Egypt that if she continues to refuse to perform her international obligations and open the canal we will ask the Israelis to do it in the course of their operations. (Laughter and cheers.)

MR. BROWN.—That is the kind of remark which, though it might go down all right in here, creates many additional difficulties elsewhere. (Ministerial cheers.)

What we have to do is to create the climate in which we can not only open the canal but enable some other changes to take place in that part of that area.

MR. HEATH (Bexley, C.).—We understand the political difficulties, and realize it may take a considerable time to resolve them.

The Foreign Secretary appeared to confirm in one of his answers that there was no physical obstruction in the canal to the south of the Bitter Lakes. We believe this to be true.

Will he confirm this, and, if it is the case, will he confirm that there can be no justification in international law for these ships being detained by the U.A.R. in the Bitter Lakes?

MR. BROWN.—I am glad of the opportunity to put right something I said earlier which may be misleading.

There are physical obstructions south of the Bitter Lakes. If I said something which might have sounded differently I am sorry.

There are to our certain knowledge physical obstructions to the south of the Bitter Lakes. It is physically blocked there as well as in the north.

The point I was trying to make was that clearing these physical obstructions will be a fairly short-run and simple arrangement. It is clearing the political difficulties which will take time.

Moves to open Suez Canal.
The Times (London, England),Friday, Jul 28, 1967; pg. 13; Issue 57005.

Category: Politics and Parliament

Gale Document Number:CS219114748

Israel blames Jordan for refugee problem

From DAVID SPANIER—Jerusalem, July 28

Israel is not trying to drive Jordanians out of the captured area of the west bank of the river. Its present efforts are directed, in fact, towards restoring the area's economic and social fabric. The Israel Government completely rejects the charges made in *The Times* yesterday by two M.P.s visiting Jordan, Mr. Ian Gilmour and Mr. Dennis Walters.

What particularly upsets the Israelis is that these British M.P.s refused the chance to visit the west bank and see for themselves what the Israelis are doing. It is claimed they spent only two or three hours near Jericho.

"We have not driven out anybody from the west bank, we have not asked anybody to leave", the spokesman for the Foreign Ministry told me today. "We recognize there is suffering on the other side and people are miserable and we are ready for the refugees to return."

Keeping out terrorists

To this end Israel authorities produced forms to get entry permits. When this procedure was rejected by the Jordanians, because of the Israel stamp on the forms, the authorities suggested, through the Red Cross, that direct talks be held with Jordan. So far, however, there has been no Jordanian reply.

An Israel official told me, during a tour of the west bank yesterday, that the purpose of the forms was deliberately to exclude the return of known terrorists and commandos, who have, in time of peace, given Israel border settlements such trouble.

The exodus of Jordanians from the west bank is now of the order of a few hundred a day. Israel sources said that this is partly for economic motives—people have bank accounts which they wish to use—or for family reasons

They have to sign a form stating that they are leaving of their own free will. The Foreign Ministry spokesman described this as emigration so far as the present scheme was concerned. The future course of events could not yet be predicted

When I visited the Allenby Bridge I found a scene rather different from that noted by the two M.P.s, but I was, of course, on an official Israel tour. One Jordanian had come down with furniture which he was sending over to his relatives. Arab porters were on hire, and other Jordanians crossed over easily enough.

Life in the west bank towns such as Jericho and Bethlehem (which is doing a roaring tourist trade) seems tranqil enough. The Mayor of Hebron, who has been under severe criticism from Amman for staying on, described Israel cooperation as extremely good. He said that the whole town had been saved from destruction, although many peoeple had been expecting to have their throats cut.

"The Government, in all honesty, has not yet settled its policy for the west bank", the Foreign Ministry spokesman said, "so it is absurd to claim that we are trying to expel the Jordanian population. The only point which we have made is that we want direct negotiations with Jordan to resolve the whole question. There is no decision apart from this. Far from pushing them out, we are trying to develop the economic life of the area and have spent over $1m. (£357,000) so far."

He cited the restoration of public services including resumption of work on road and building projects,

Camps ready

Behind this rosy picture, however, it is obvious that there has been much hardship. This is what war is like, and the Israelis would say that it was the Jordanians who started it.

Nevertheless, refugee camps on the west bank are in good condition, often better than the Jordanian villages themselves. Mr. Jeff Cassels, a senior British official working for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, told me that the 100,000 people who left these camps—out of 430,000 refugees registered on the east bank—could return immediately if agreement could be reached between Jordan and Israel.

'We went into Israel as the devil's advocates,' and leading article, page 11.

Egypt arrest inquiry

BY OUR DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Reports that Mr. Brown, the Foreign Secretary, has received a request from Lord Lambton for an investigation into a possible British security breach in Cairo were confirmed by the Foreign Office yesterday.

The request for an investigation was based, it is understood, on the evidence of Squadron Leader Hindle James, who was dragged out of bed and interrogated by the Egyptian police on June 6. In this interrogation, Squadron Leader James alleges, the police disclosed that photographic copies of correspondence between himself and the British interests section of the Canadian Embassy in Cairo (through which Britain's relations with Egypt are conducted) and possibly of other official documents were in the possession of the Egyptian police.

Foreign Office representatives yesterday said that a reply would be sent to Lord Lambton after the matter had been considered. It is thought that a reply will be sent in the next day or so, and that this is not a case of any serious security breach.

Israel blames Jordan for refugee problem.
From DAVID SPANIER

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Jul 29, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57006.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68250877

Cairo seeks Yemen support costs

Threat of withdrawal

From IBRAHIM NOORI—Aden, July 30

Egypt has told Yemen that it will be forced to limit its operations in the five-year-old civil war unless the Republican Government makes a substantial contribution towards maintaining the estimated 25,000 Egyptian troops, according to a broadcast today by the Government-controlled South Arabian radio.

The Egyptian message was said to have been delivered to Marshal Abdullah al Sallal, the Yemen President, by Ahmed Shukri, the Egyptian envoy in Sana. The President was said to have been told that Egypt would have to restrict operations to Sana and Hodeida province on the Red Sea unless help was provided.

The radio said that Shukri also asked for a Yemen tribal force to defend Maydi and Haradh, towns near the Saudi Arabia border which were recently recaptured by the Egyptians from the Royalists.

Postponement sought

Marshal Sallal was said to have flown to Taiz on Thursday to ask tribal leaders for cash and volunteers, but to have returned empty-handed. He had asked Egypt to postpone its withdrawal plans until he could seek help from the Arab Foreign Ministers, who are due to meet in Khartum on Tuesday to deal with the aftermath of the Middle East.

According to informed sources, Egypt this month sent 70 aircraft, including 10 Ilyushin-14 bombers, to Rahaba and Raudha airfields north of Sana, where the Egyptian garrison has also been reinforced.

Egyptian and Republican forces were said to have suffered heavy losses in recent operations. In a battle last week in the Hajja area, west of Sana, the Royalists were said to have inflicted more than 200 casualties.

Seven Egyptians were reported to have been killed when troops with armoured cars were called in to quell a riot by 3,000 prisoners in a Sana gaol. Nineteen prisoners and four warders were also reported killed.

More efforts by UN team on Aden

FROM ERIC BRITTER

NEW YORK, JULY 30

The three-man United Nations special mission to Aden, headed by Dr. Manuel Perez-Guerrero (Venezuela), has announced that by resuming hearings in Geneva, it intends to continue its efforts to ascertain what part the United Nations can play in promoting independence for Aden and South Arabia.

A statement by the mission says that after its recent "fruitful" meetings in New York with a delegation of the Front for the Liberation of Occupied South Yemen (Flosy), it had announced that it would pursue its consultations in accordance with its mandate.

Subsequently, the mission met for three consecutive days last week with Sir Humphrey Trevelyan, the British High Commissioner for Aden and South Arabia. The talks are understood to have been friendly and frank. Sir Humphrey has now returned to Aden via London.

Now the mission says it considers it important to have further meetings with the elements concerned. For their convenience, these meetings will start at the European office of the United Nations in Geneva on August 11.

It is not yet known here whether the National Liberation Front (N.L.F.) of Aden, which had stated that it would be prepared to give evidence if requested, will send a delegation to Geneva. Technically, the request for a hearing before the mission should come from the N.L.F. and not from the mission.

Banks reopen

ADEN, July 30.—Three British banks reopened for business today after security was tightened in Steamer Point, Aden's shopping area. The Eastern Bank, Chartered Bank, and British Bank of the Middle East closed yesterday to protest against what they called inadequate protection for their expatriate staff.—*Reuter.*

CHICAGO.—Women car drivers are expected to outnumber men drivers in the United States within the next 10 years, according to an American oil company report.

Cairo seeks Yemen support costs.
From IBRAHIM NOORI

The Times (London, England),Monday, Jul 31, 1967; pg. 3; Issue 57007.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS51342591

Israel link with Jordan possible

New west bank policy

From DAVID SPANIER—Jerusalem, Aug. 1

The Government's decision to make the Israel pound legal tender in the occupied west bank of the Jordan, as from today, alongside the Jordan dinar, marks the opening of a new phase in Israel policy. Its objective appears to be to bring economic and social life in the west bank as far as possible back towards normal, during a long if not indefinite period of occupation.

In the other occupied areas, Sinai, the Gaza Strip, and the Syrian heights, the Israel pound will be the only legal currency. The different system for the west bank, with its acceptance of Jordan money, implies the keeping open of the possibility of economic cooperation with Jordan at some future date.

The capture of the west bank took Israel by surprise after the war. Judging by all accounts, the high command did not expect Jordan to attack. Perhaps this was a misjudgment by the Israel intelligence service.

Tourists pour in

At any rate, if the conquest and occupation of the Old City of Jerusalem and the whole west bank area was unexpected, it was also from the Israel viewpoint a heaven-sent bonus from the war against Egypt. In this first period of euphoria, which lasted for about six weeks, the administration had no very clear idea of what it was trying to do.

Israel tourist coaches poured into the west bank towns in their scores, and they are still doing so. Far from being an area of military occupation, the west bank was and is being treated like a gigantic carnival for day trippers.

A whole series of local administrative decisions had to be taken. The surpluses of farm produce had to be taken off the market, road and water works were set in hand, an attempt was made to get the schools to reopen after the summer holiday, and so on.

It became increasingly clear that any hopes of direct talks with other Arab countries, and in particular with Jordan, were not going to be realized very quickly, if indeed at all. As Mr. Abba Eban, the Foreign Minister, put it in the Knesset yesterday: "There are only two alternatives now, a continuation of the present situation or its replacement by a state of peace."

Political decisions

Accordingly, it would seem that the Israel Government came to the conclusion, given the prior condition that Israel was not going to withdraw without a full guarantee of her future security, that an overall policy must be worked out for the west bank. In the first place this means shoring up its shattered economy.

While decisions have been made on a day-to-day basis by the occupation authorities, the Civil Service in Jerusalem has been making a longer term study of the economic and social problems of administering the west bank. There has been no official announcement about policy; but it seems fair to suppose that, beginning with the decision to introduce the Israel pound as legal currency, Israel will more and more assume responsibility for the welfare of the west bank.

Political decisions, notably the rights of the inhabitants, must necessarily be left to later, when it becomes clear if Jordan is willing to hold direct talks. Israel feelings about Jordan seem, on the whole, decidedly open and not hostile. King Husain is seen as the victim of his own misjudgment rather than a sworn enemy of the Israel state. A deal could be made.

This is not to say that hardliners in the Government would not like to absorb the whole west bank, some for security and some for emotional reasons. No doubt they would. But whereas that kind of decision cannot be taken yet, remedies for the economic ills are urgent.

The scarcity of monetary liquidity was becoming acute. Arab residents cannot draw on their banks. At the same time, traders are taking Israel pounds with alacrity, and cashing what dinars they have at black market rates. Israel presumably considered introducing a special occupation scrip but this would have seemed only temporary. It is probably in the expectation of a long stay on the west bank that the Israel pound has been made legal tender.

Indian charges of brutality

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

DELHI, AUG. 1

An Israel tank in Gaza deliberately fired on an Indian Unef (United Nations Emergency Force) vehicle from five yards and then deliberately squashed the driver to death knowing that he was a member of the United Nations, India alleges in an *aide memoire* handed to the Israel consul general in Delhi today. The Indian Government "categorically" rejects the Israel apology that Indian soldiers serving with Unef during the hostilities in Gaza were killed accidentally.

The *aide memoire* adds that on the basis of the reports of the United Nations Secretary-General, and the information given by officers and men of the Indian Unef contingent, there can be no doubt that, leaving aside the accidental death of three Unef staff on June 6, the Israel forces on five occasions deliberately attacked Indian Unef staff, killing 11 and wounding 24

The Indian Government maintains that there is first hand, undeniable evidence to show that the Israelis attacked the Indians deliberately knowing that they were members of Unef.

The *Times of India* today attacked the Indian allegations, saying that the Secretary-General's report does not bear out the charges of wanton attacks. The Washington correspondent of the newspaper says that the only possible explanation for the charges is "the Indian anxiety to uphold the thesis that the Israelis are dreadful people and that the Arabs are their innocent victims".

Israel link with Jordan possible.
From DAVID SPANIER

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Aug 02, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57009.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS84110594

ARAB MINISTERS MEET IN KHARTUM

KHARTUM, Aug. 1.—The Arab Foreign Ministers' meeting opened here today with a call by the Sudan for a United Arab front against "Zionist - imperialist aggression".

Mr. Muhammad Ahmed Mahgoub, the Sudan Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, told the meeting that concerted action should be decided on to "wipe out all traces" of this aggression.

Mr. Mahgoub appealed to the Foreign Ministers to work out a joint Arab plan of action for approval by an eventual Arab summit.

The meeting is being held here to try to achieve a more solid Arab front against Israel and countries such as Britain, the United States and west Germany, which have been accused by some Arab states of helping Israel in the Middle East war.

It will also see if there is enough general agreement to hold a conference of Arab heads of state in the near future—August 10 is one date suggested by Sudan.

Today's meeting of Foreign Ministers was delayed six hours because the Algeria and Morocco delegations were not here in time for the opening. The Algerians were not present when the meeting finally started, but officials said they were expected tomorrow.

This is the second formal Arab Foreign Ministers' meeting since the Middle East war. The first was in Kuwait last month and ended indecisively.

Since then there has been a "little summit" in Cairo of Egypt, Algeria, Syria, Iraq, and Sudan.

Strict application of the oil embargo against Britain and the United States and demands for a break in diplomatic relations with them are among the questions due to come up at the Khartum meeting.

Observers believe the meeting could develop into a tug-of-war on the degree and extent of sanctions against Britain and the United States.

A number of Arab states, such as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Libya, have already let it be known that the oil embargo, for one, is becoming an increasing burden on their treasuries. —*Reuter.*

Arab Ministers Meet In Khartum.
The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Aug 02, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57009.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS84241666



Foreign Ministers of the Arab countries at the opening of their conference in Khartum, where they are seeking to consolidate their front against Israel.

EGYPT READY TO PROPOSE YEMEN CEASE-FIRE

From ERIC PACE, Khartum, Aug. 2

The proposal of a cease-fire in Yemen, that the United Arab Republic plans to present before the Arab Foreign Ministers' conference, would entail the withdrawal of Egyptian troops from that country, authoritative sources said today.

Pulling out the 20,000 Egyptian soldiers, who are now thought to be deployed in Yemen, the sources say, would result in much needed budget savings and would help to offset Egypt's losses during the June fighting with Israel.

But it might also drastically curtail President Nasser's influence in Yemen and in South Arabia, and hence his stature in the Arab world.

The sources, who declined to be identified for publication, said Muhammad Riad, the U.A.R. Foreign Minister, would propose the armistice as a gesture of conciliation to Saudi Arabia.

Jidda agreement

Arab diplomatists said that if Saudi Arabia accepted the cease-fire, prospects for an Arab summit conference would be greatly enhanced.

Mr. Riad's intentions were disclosed after rumours—prompted by Cairo press reports—that Egypt had already put the Yemen proposal before the conference, which convened here yesterday.

Mr. Riad reportedly plans to propose the reactivation and complete implementation of the two-year-old Yemen cease-fire pact known as the Jidda agreement.

The agreement envisaged beside a phased withdrawal of Egyptian forces, the formation of a national caretaker government and the holding of a plebiscite among Yemen's tribesmen to decide on a permanent government.

Oil embargo

There was no immediate comment on prospects for a cease-fire from the Saudi Arabian delegation here, one of 13 delegations attending the conference. But there were reports in the Sudanese press that King Faisal had expressed willingness to take part in an Arab summit conference.

Mr. Riad, when asked about the prospects for a pull-out of Egyptian troops, said merely: "There is the Jiddah agreement." He did not elaborate.

A discordant note was sounded in the conference today when delegates of Iraq and Morocco called for the resumption of Arab oil exports to the United States and Britain.

Ahmed el Iraqu, the chief Moroccan delegate, said that the economic effects of the embargo were a mere "scratch on the hand" to the United States and Britain but a "deadly cancer" to Arabs.

Statements by the two delegates marked the end of the virtual unanimity among Arabs in support of the oil embargo.

The oil embargo is one of several anti-western measures that the conference is expected to discuss in its efforts to create an atmosphere of solidarity among the Arab states and thus to pave the way for a summit conference.—*New York Times News Service.*

Mr Maudling in Amman

AMMAN, Aug. 2.—Mr. Reginald Maudling, deputy leader of the Conservative Party, visited refugee camps here and was received by King Husain this evening.

Mr. Maudling, who arrived here earlier today from Saudi Arabia for a two-day visit to Jordan, had talks with Dr. Hatem Zu'bi, Minister of Economy, and Mr. Kassem al-Rimawi, Speaker of the House of Representatives.—*Reuter.*

Egypt Ready To Propose Yemen Cease-Fire.
From ERIC PACE

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Aug 03, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57010.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67857667

Egypt accepts UN Suez proposal

One-month ban on boats

From MOSHE BRILLIANT—Tel Aviv, Aug, 3

Egypt today followed Israel's lead in agreeing to stop the movement of its boats in the Suez Canal for a period of one month. The agreement was negotiated by General Odd Bull, United Nations representative for cease-fire affairs, during his latest visit to Cairo.

The canal has been blocked to navigation since the Israel conquest of the Sinai peninsula, when the Egyptians scuttled ships in the waterway. Israel forces on the west bank and Egyptians on the east bank have sailed small craft along their respective banks and there have been a number of clashes.

General Bull proposed the month's standstill on July 27 in letters to Jerusalem and Cairo requesting a general cessation of military activity on the waterway. The Israelis accepted last week and General Bull has now returned to Jerusalem from Cairo with Egypt's acceptance.

The Cairo agreement provides for the operation of tenders under the auspices of the canal authority to supply the 14 foreign ships blocked in the waterway. General Bull will now seek Israel's agreement to this arrangement, and no difficulties are foreseen.

Under an arrangement negotiated by the International Red Cross, Egyptian ferries crossed the canal at El Qantara today to repatriate some 500 women, children and elderly men caught by the war in the Gaza strip.

Doctors stay

Twenty Egyptian doctors and 30 nurses remained in Gaza under an arrangement between the United Nations Relief and Works Agency and the Israel military governor. Israel holds some 5,000 prisoners of war, while Egypt holds about a dozen Israel servicemen. The Israelis want the Egyptians to include civilian prisoners in the exchange and the International Red Cross has been unable to work out an agreement.

On the Israel-Jordan front there was shooting for the third day near the Damia bridge. Israelis said Jordanians fired across the river this morning at a patrol, and there was a sporadic exchange of light fire for 20 minutes.

Deadline set for leaving Libya

BY OUR DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

An announcement broadcast from Libya yesterday said that Libyan and British delegations met on Tuesday in Benghazi to discuss arrangements for the evacuation of British forces. The two sides agreed that the evacuation and the handing over to the Libyan Government of military installations should be completed in not more than six months.

The Libyan Government has emphasized its readiness to provide all facilities required, so that this may be accomplished as planned.

The withdrawal of British troops from Libya has been a gradual but steady process. The latest announcement carries it an important stage further. What troops and installations in the region are to be withdrawn or transferred is not entirely clear.

In 1965 and 1966 all troops were withdrawn from Tripolitania, but there is still an armoured car reconnaisance regiment of about 450 men in Benghazi. It seems certain that this will now be withdrawn.

Other British forces in Libya are an infantry company of about 120 men at Tobruk, a small local headquarters, and an R.A.F. staging post at El Adem, with a strength of about 1,000.

TRIPOLI, Aug. 3.—Negotiations on the future of the United States Wheelus air base in Libya will begin on August 10 when a six-man Libyan team will met an American delegation in Tripoli.—*Associated Press.*

Oil discount ended, page 15.

Egypt accepts UN Suez proposal.
From MOSHE BRILLIANT

The Times (London, England),Friday, Aug 04, 1967; pg. 3; Issue 57011.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS50556164

Israel plans development of Jordan's west bank

From DAVID SPANIER—Tel Aviv, Aug. 3

After the Army's victory, the economists go into action. Israel's plans for developing the west bank of the Jordan are now going ahead.

Within two months of the occupation, the experts have analysed the area's economy, drawn up their blueprint for reforming its agriculture, and begun to lead the local population in putting it into practice.

The Israel appreciation falls into two parts. In the immediate situation, the first aim has been to get the daily routine of farming going again, make dispositions for next season's crops, and prepare the way for longer range structural development. Beyond this, the authorities intend to be ready with contingency plans for the time when a political decision is taken about the future status of the west bank. No one knows how long the interval will last.

The agricultural planning is under the charge of Mr. Ariel Ammiad, director-general of the Ministry of Agriculture and a former staff officer of General Dayan. The problems of the west bank, particularly in irrigation, are of exactly the same kind which Israel has been tackling for developing countries; but this is the first time that Israel expertise has been exported in a Middle Eastern setting.

Economically, it appears that Israel is treating the west bank and other occupied areas as separate entities, apart from Israel itself. Thus the policy for the west bank is directed towards restoring its normal way of life, for the support of its inhabitants. The intention is to maintain prices at the same level as existed in Jordan before the war.

The Arabs are reported to be cooperating. In the first place, their action was motivated by fear. Now, so it is said, it is based on understanding. Half the population of 945,000 (less the exodus of new refugees) depends directly on the land for its livelihood, and a further proportion on activities related to farming.

On way to Arab summit

KHARTUM, Aug. 3. — Mr. Muhammad Ahmed Mahgoub, the Sudan Prime Minister, said today the Arab Foreign Ministers' conference here hoped in a short time to prepare an agenda for an Arab summit meeting.

Observers saw the statement by Mr. Mahgoub, the conference spokesman, as confirmation that the conference had in fact succeeded in agreeing on a summit meeting.

Mr. Mahgoub, speaking after this morning's closed session, said the conference was moving toward a hopeful end. Conference sources said the summit was expected to be held here.

The Foreign Ministers, meeting for the third day, appeared to be devoting all today's sessions to preparing for the summit. They did not appear, however, to be taking concrete decisions on the different problems listed on the agenda for the Foreign Ministers' conference.

A suggestion to create a commission of three Arab countries to supervise implementation of the revived agreement was attributed to Sudan. This proposal would provide for Egypt and Saudi Arabia each to nominate a country. The third member would be chosen by the other Arab countries.

Israel plans development of Jordan's west bank.
From DAVID SPANIER

The Times (London, England),Friday, Aug 04, 1967; pg. 3; Issue 57011.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS50949380

CAIRO CALL TO RENEW LINKS WITH U S

CAIRO, Aug. 4.—Muhammad Hassanein Heykal, editor of the authoritative Cairo newspaper *Al Ahram* and a personal friend of President Nasser, wrote today that it was essential for Egypt to have diplomatic relations with the United States.

Cairo severed diplomatic relations with the United States last June because of Washington's alleged support of Israel during the Middle East war.

The editor said that diplomatic relations with the United States were essential to balance the United Arab Republic's international policy.

"A head-on clash with the United States was, and still is in my opinion, an error which we cannot afford and for which we are not equipped."

Even the Soviet Union, which was hundreds of times stronger than the United Arab Republic, avoided a head-on clash with the United States. Similarly China was avoiding open intervention in Vietnam, despite United States provocation.

After abandoning the present method of a head-on clash with the United States Cairo should imitate the tactics of a Spanish bullfighter, Heykal wrote.

"If the bullfighter butted the bull he would be killed because the animal is far stronger. But through courage, skill and swift movements, the fighter ends up by killing the bull."

The Suez Canal could be opened within three months of the decision to clear it being given, an article in *Al Ahram* said today. The newspaper said clearing of the canal would not present any major difficulty. Politics rather than technical difficulties were holding up matters.

"The canal will not be opened to navigation until all the results of aggression are eliminated", the paper said.—*Reuter* and *Agence France Presse.*

Arab discord over oil exports

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

KHARTUM, AUG. 4

Serious discord has broken out between Arab oil-producing countries over their embargo on oil exports to the United States and Britain as well as over other economic matters, senior Arab diplomatists reported today.

They said an Iraq plan proposing ways to strengthen the Arabs economic position and to retaliate against western countries for their alleged support to Israel was supported by Algeria, but had elicited an unfavourable response from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Libya.

The plan calls for a complete stoppage of oil production by Arab countries in September, October, and November, when the demand for oil in Europe rises with the approach of winter, to be followed by a boycott on deliveries at least to the United States and Britain. It also envisages at least partial expropriation of some foreign oil interests.

The plan has been referred to the respective Ministers of Economics and Petroleum, to avoid public wrangling at the conference.—*New York Times News Service.*

The Arab Ministers concluded their talks with an agreement in principle to hold a summit meeting, Reuter reports.

Dearer petrol

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

LISBON, AUG. 4

The Middle East situation has forced the Portuguese Government to raise the price of petrol. From today top-grade petrol is 6.50 escudos a litre (1s. 7½d.) instead of 1s. 6d. There is an increase of 30 centimos (1d.) on ordinary petrol and gas oil. The price of fuel oil for industrial purposes has not been increased. An official statement attributes the increase to higher freight costs resulting from the blockage of the Suez Canal.

Mini-skirts ban

TEL AVIV, Aug. 4.—Israel Radio today appealed to all Israel women planning to visit occupied Jordan and the Gaza strip this weekend not to wear mini-skirts or tight trousers. It also warned against bathing in Gaza.

The appeal came after a brawl in Tul Karm last night between about 50 Israelis and Arabs over mini-skirted Israel girl tourists.—*Agence France Presse.*

Cairo Call To Renew Links With US.
The Times (London, England),Saturday, Aug 05, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57012.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67595525

Artillery area ban for Syria

FROM DAVID SPANIER

JERUSALEM, AUG. 6

A visit to the Syrian heights confirms the general impression in Israel that the Government will never agree to Syria having unrestricted control of this area again.

It is not just that Israel public opinion would not stand for it. It is rather that the geographical facts are against uncontrolled Syrian sovereignty without a most profound change of political attitude between the two countries.

Officially, Israel is ready for direct negotiations on the whole problem. In theory, some way round by international supervision could be found. But this kind of solution has to overcome Israel's total lack of confidence in United Nations supervision as such.

The area is a testimony to hatred. The land above the Syrian heights is wide and rolling, ringed by powerful hills. It is quite uncultivated in spite of having a rainfall higher than anywhere in Israel.

Diversion attempt

A network of trenches and artillery positions criss-crosses the land right along the frontier and extends back miles in depth. Where the land is not honeycombed with these trenches it is mined and Israel soldiers are still occupied with clearing the mines.

The only sign of what might be called civil engineering is a long scar running along the mountainside where the Syrians tried vainly to divert the river Banias from flowing into the Jordan on the Israel side.

By contrast, the Israel *kibbutzim* down in the Hula valley below really do look like the promised land.

The purpose of the Syrian guns was to fire down into the valley. This they did, according to the residents, throughout the past 19 years. It is easy to see why the Israelis are not prepared to tolerate a return to this situation.

A rather interesting aspect of the situation concerns the Druze. Some 8,000 of these people, who are of Arabic origin but have their own religion, live in the Israel-occupied area of Syria. They did not leave when the Syrian Army fled back to Damascus. There is some reason for believing that they might prefer to live under the Israelis.

Repatriation date agreed

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

TEL AVIV, AUG. 6

The International Red Cross informed the Israel defence forces today that Egypt has agreed to begin repatriating nationals from El Arish on August 14. Some 1,500 officials, businessmen and clerks from Egypt are to be evacuated, but not the 30,000 permanent inhabitants of El Arish, the largest town in Sinai.

Whole families are to be permitted to return home, in contrast to the repatriation from the Gaza Strip, where women, children and the elderly were sent home, but men were detained, apparently to strengthen Israel's bargaining position in negotiations for an exchange of prisoners.

Arab problems for summit

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

KHARTUM, AUG. 6

The Arab Foreign Ministers ended their talks here without solid agreement on a unified plan of action on how to bring about Israel withdrawal from territory gained in the Middle East war. A brief statement indicated that the delegates avoided controversial issues so as not to kill hopes for an Arab summit meeting which according to Sudan suggestions is expected to open here on August 29.

Informed sources say that efforts to settle the dispute between Saudi Arabia and Egypt over Yemen will continue through diplomatic channels.

The conference referred all economic draft resolutions on measures aimed at reducing the financial impact of the war to the Finance Ministers Baghdad meeting on August 15.

RANGOON.—Burma is temporarily suspending the supply of jet fuel to international aircraft, to conserve stocks for internal services. The British Overseas Airways Corporation is among companies affected.

Artillery area ban for Syria.
FROM DAVID SPANIER

The Times (London, England),Monday, Aug 07, 1967; pg. 3; Issue 57013.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS52129031

Britain seeks Libya bases decision

FROM OUR DIPLOMATIC STAFF

The timetable for British withdrawal from Libya continues to be the subject of negotiations in Benghazi, but a reinterpretation of last Thursday's agreed communiqué now appears necessary. It was then stated that all British forces would be withdrawn " from the area " within six months, but it is not clear whether this meant just Benghazi or the whole of Libya.

There are about 1,000 men in Benghazi, an armoured car regiment and headquarters staff. There is also an infantry company, about 140 strong, in Tobruk and about 800 servicemen at El Adem, the R.A.F. staging post.

In the aftermath of the Middle East War, Libya called for the complete evacuation of its territory by all British and American forces. The negotiations are presumably designed to elucidate whether, after reflection, Libya really wants to be abandoned naked to her friends or whether some western presence should be preserved.

The decision will depend largely on how much the Government finds itself able to withstand popular anti-western pressure, which is still preventing a resumption of oil shipments to Britain. The negotiations may be protracted.

Canal complaint by Israel

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

TEL AVIV, AUG. 7

General Moshe Dayan, the Israel Defence Minister, protested to United Nations officials today that Egypt had violated last week's agreement for a one-month stoppage of all navigation in the Suez Canal.

The agreement permitted the use of Canal Authority craft to supply and service foreign ships stranded in the Great Bitter Lake since the Arab-Israel war. The Israelis claimed that armed Egyptian soldiers were seen last week sailing in Canal Authority vessels in parts of the waterway where there were no stranded ships.

Arabs take over Aden port

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

ADEN, AUGUST 7

For the first time today Arabs took over the management of Aden Port, the South Arabian Federation's economic mainstay, although Britain will retain key technical posts.

The Aden Government has appointed as chairman of the port's board of trustees Muhammad Abdo Ghanem, a well-known poet and graduate of the American University of Beirut and London University's School of Oriental Studies.

Mr. Eric Wood, the port's retiring general manager, who first joined the port 23 years ago as a pilot, will leave for Scotland tomorrow.

Britain seeks Libya bases decision.
FROM OUR DIPLOMATIC STAFF

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Aug 08, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57014.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS85290248

S AFRICAN COURT CHALLENGE

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Pretoria, Aug. 7

Thirty-seven Africans accused of terrorist acts in South-West Africa appeared at the Supreme Court in Pretoria today. It is the first trial since the passing of the South African Terrorist Act, under which the accused may be sentenced to death if found guilty of some of the charges they are facing.

The 41-page indictment sets out a long list of charges and also contains 30 pages detailing places, times and each man's part in the alleged terrorist activities.

It also lists 81 co-conspirators not before the court who are alleged to have taken part in the activities. Some of these alleged co-conspirators are dead.

Eighteen of the accused men are alleged to have received training in one or more of the following countries: Russia, Egypt, Algeria, Ghana and Tanzania. It is alleged some of the accused plotted the deaths of three pro-Government headmen: one headman is alleged to have been killed.

Among the alleged terrorist acts, an armed raid on a farm, in which the farmer was wounded and shots were fired at the police, was described in the indictment together with an attack on a Government settlement at Oshikango.

The hearing today did not last long, for Mr. N. Philips, Q.C., the defence counsel, applied for a postponement of the trial until September 11 so that the defence could adequately prepare the case. The Judge granted the application.

Mr. Philips, applying for the adjournment, said the competence of the court to try the case involved questions of international law and required a particular study.

Other reasons for postponement that he submitted were that many of the accused were illiterate and could only speak Ovambo. As the defence of each man must be separately considered, this was complicated by the fact that each of the accused acted in conjunction with others. Further, counsel said, the acts committed were numerous and covered a period in some cases of five years. In other cases the acts were committed in foreign countries.

Training of guerrillas

It was necessary to give serious consideration to the question of whether the statute under which the men were charged (the Terrorism Act, 1967, which is retrospective to 1962) was within the legislative competence of the South African Parliament as it applied to Southwest Africa and to offences committed in that territory. "It is most important that this fundamental legal issue be considered properly", Mr. Philips added.

The main charge is that the accused men, three of whom were members of the executive committee of the South-West Africa People's Organization (Swapo), took part in terrorist activities between June, 1962, and May, 1967. They are also accused of entering South-West Africa fully armed, with the intention of creating violent revolution and hostility between whites and non-whites.

Twentyone of the men are described either as labourers or unemployed. There are also four peasants, three farmers, two teachers, one mechanic and one clerk. The occupations of the remainder is not known.

The 14-page request of the defence for further particulars asks for full precise details of the aims and objectives of Swapo during the period covered in the indictment; in what manner and when Swapo became party to the alleged conspiracy and how it was involved in the alleged training of guerrillas; how Swapo conspired to bring about hostility between whites and non-whites, and how the organization attempted to intimidate headmen in Ovamboland to withdraw their support from the Government.

After the Judge left the Bench the accused were taken under police guard back to gaol. Outside the court a film was taken from the camera of a *Johannesburg Star* photographer by a uniformed policeman.

S African Court Challenge.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Aug 08, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57014.

Category: Law

Gale Document Number:CS85552392

'Secret east-west pact' on Middle East

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Rome, Aug. 7

President Tito was reported today to have stated that the Glassboro meeting between President Johnson and Mr. Kosygin resulted in a plan for a detailed solution to the Middle East crisis.

Signor Lucio Manisco, foreign affairs expert of the Rome newspaper *Il Messaggero*, wrote that President Tito learnt of the secret agreement directly from Mr. Brezhnev, Soviet head of state, during the meeting of communist leaders held in Budapest in July.

According to *Il Messaggero* Washington has informed the British Government of the main points of the agreement, and Moscow may have informed the leaders of the principal Arab states.

Direct pressure

The newspaper, quoting "authoritative sources", said that the Glassboro agreement included the following main points:—

Moscow and Washington committed themselves to exert direct pressure on Israel and the Arab countries to accept direct negotiations. If this were not possible they were to be persuaded to accept the mediation of a third party.

It was recognized that Israel must withdraw its forces to the borders existing before June 5, although those borders would have to be modified slightly to guarantee the strategic security of Israel at certain points such as the border with Jordan and the Syrian heights. Israel's withdrawal should follow a form of recognition of the state of Israel by the Arab states.

The principal Arab states should offer guarantees on the security of Israel and allow free navigation of the Suez Canal and the Gulf of Aqaba. The Jerusalem city government should undertake not to change further the pre-war boundaries.

The United States and Russia committed themselves not to promote a new arms race in the Middle East. Mr. Kosygin is said to have told Mr. Johnson of the quantity of military supplies which Russia intended to ship to Syria and Egypt to replace the equipment destroyed during the war. These were said to be "very limited" and to have been suspended already.

Moscow and Washington committed themselves to guarantee any future agreement between the Arabs and Israel.

The Yugoslav Government is said to be very unhappy about the agreement because it is felt that Arab diplomatic mobility has been severely limited. The Khartum meeting of Arab Foreign Ministers had been unsuccessful, at least in part, because the situation was already "frozen" by the Russian-American agreement.

President Tito is said to be personally annoyed because Mr. Kosygin and President Johnson set no deadline for implementation of their agreement, thus making it possible that the status quo, which is totally unacceptable to the Arabs, will continue indefinitely.

'Secret east-west pact' on Middle East.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Aug 08, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57014.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS85814536

Tito's peace plan for Arabs

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

VIENNA, AUG. 8

President Tito, one of the few friends of President Nasser whose personal record is untarnished and whose loyalty has been fully confirmed, will leave on Thursday for Cairo where he is expected to present his own compromise plan for peace in the Middle East.

There has been no official word about the plan beyond the cautious optimism which he is reported to have expressed to the chairman of the *Washington Post* regarding a possible withdrawal by Israel in exchange for an international guarantee of its borders.

A month or so ago President Tito was still insisting upon the unconditional withdrawal of Israel troops. He maintained that as long as they remained on Arab territory any question of recognition and navigation through the Gulf of Aqaba and the Suez Canal would represent a complete Arab capitulation. Now he appears to be thinking of a more realistic project.

The importance of his mission is underlined by the inclusion of Mr. Kardelj, the President's chief adviser on foreign affairs. Mr. Gligorev, State Secretary for Economic Affairs, who is also going to Cairo, is evidently entrusted with finding out what economic assistance Yugoslavia could render Egypt. Aid of £2m. was sent in July.

Shops closed as reprisal

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

JERUSALEM, AUG. 8

Normal business was resumed today in the former Jordan-ruled sector of Jerusalem after yesterday's general strike in protest against Israel's annexation of the territory.

The Israel Army has invoked defence regulations to discourage further civil disobedience. Brigadier Uzi Narkis today ordered five of the largest shops which took part in yesterday's action to remain closed, and a bus company which went on strike had its licence revoked.

Shops, offices, and restaurants reopened today. There was no indication that anyone had heeded an appeal by Jordan radio for a general strike in Hebron and Bethlehem.

Tito's peace plan for Arabs.
FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Aug 09, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57015.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68644105

Lord Avon protests over Egypt's use of gas

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Berwick upon Tweed, Aug. 9

Lord Avon ranged over world affairs in a half-hour speech at the Berwick division Conservative fête at Alnwick Castle today.

He praised Lord Lambton, the host M.P., for drawing attention to attacks by Egyptian aircraft on Arab villages and the use of gas against Yemeni tribesmen.

"It is indeed sadly symptomatic of the present day that there has been no word of protest or even discussion of this horrible business", he said. "If any country at any time uses weapons forbidden by international conventions it should be indicted. If the more responsible nations will not play their part to insist that international rules are obeyed, treaties observed and engagements kept, this world is headed for disaster."

Calling for repair of the Western Alliance, he urged the free nations to set up their own organization to provide a determined strategy and defence plans and to help the rest of the world by coordinated aid.

"If the free nations would work in unison", Lord Avon said, "they might then hope to restrain and influence the growing over-armament of smaller countries where the war of words is spiced by self-intoxication and uninhibited by even a loose regard for truth."

Lord Avon described the Israel-Arab war as "one of the most astonishing feats of arms of our century.

"If we are to get anywhere in the Middle Eastern imbroglio", he said, "we have to understand the essential issues. It was the closing of the Gulf of Aqaba and the Strait of Tiran that started the inevitable chain reaction, ending in the dramatic Israeli victory."

To ensure a lasting peace there would have to be freedom of access and transit for shipping, a willingness to live and let live, and agreement over boundaries.

Lord Avon said Israel's action was taken solely to protect her right to live. He also called for restrained diplomatic efforts in Vietnam and Rhodesia.

Lord Avon protests over Egypt's use of gas.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Aug 10, 1967; pg. 2; Issue 57016.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS34434314

Egypt protest on Sinai expulsions

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

CAIRO, AUG. 9

The United Arab Republic tonight accused Israel of flagrant violation of human principles and the United Nations charter by deciding to expel all Egyptians living in the Sinai peninsula who were not born there or did not originate from the area.

An official statement issued here said that the Israel decision was taken in the pretext that Israel did not consider these persons as original inhabitants of the Sinai peninsula. The statement added that Israel's measure was a blatant violation of the Geneva convention governing the protection of civilians during wartime, and appealed to the international Red Cross.

Egypt protest on Sinai expulsions.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Aug 10, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57016.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS69168394



President Tito embraces President Nasser on arrival in Cairo for talks on the Middle East.

WAR READINESS CALL IN CAIRO

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Cairo, Aug. 11

Muhammad Hassanein Heykal, the editor of the authoritative newspaper *Al Ahram*, said today that only a miracle could prevent a resumption of fighting between the Arabs and Israel, and Egypt's first task should therefore be to rebuild its armed forces and prepare for a return to the battlefield.

The enemy imagined he was now in a position of strength; that was why "we must prove to him that the position he occupies does not intimidate us and we are ready to inflict heavy losses on him".

Heykal devoted his article to ways of strengthening the home front in order to foil what he called United States plans to overthrow the Egyptian revolutionary regime. America, he said, was attempting to exploit the Middle East crisis to achieve three aims—to overthrow the Arab revolutionary regimes, and the Egyptian regime in particular; to strike at the idea of Arab nationalism, which the United States "considers the greatest menace to her attempts to dominate the region"; and to harm Arab-Soviet relations.

Criterion of loyalty

He said that to consolidate Egypt's domestic front the most important thing was that "we should get moving," and the first step to this end was to rebuild the armed forces and organize and mobilize the popular forces.

The economic factor would play an essential part in shaping the future of the battle. On the subject of production Heykal quoted President Nasser as saying: "efforts to increase production are the criterion of loyalty to the revolutions". As to consumption, the masses had made sacrifices to curb it and were ready for further sacrifices if required.

Emphasizing the importance of information media, he said it was wrong to hide facts or shroud them in secrecy. Further, "any attempt to arouse more enthusiasm in the belief that this is a means of mobilization is futile because battles need deep conviction."

Intellectual terror

He said that in all his writings he expressed only his own views or those of *Al Ahram*. "Undoubtedly we adhere to the general line of the political and social revolution. But we write on our own and we stand fully responsible for what we write."

Speaking of what he called "intellectual terrorism", he said: "No sooner does somebody voice an opinion than others come up with something which he did not say and make of themselves prosecutors, judges, and executioners." Those who practised terrorism were not the originators of ideologies.

The greatest advantage of the Egyptian revolutionary regime was that it did not put any restrictions on freedom of thought or expression, not only as regards the press but also as regards literature, art and culture. The Egyptian revolution did not try to impose a particular school or any kind of mould or set formula.

In Cairo today President Nasser and President Tito of Yugoslavia began their formal talks on the Middle East crisis and other subjects of mutual interest. They met privately for two hours and were then joined by members of their delegations for another two-hour session.

War Readiness Call In Cairo.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Aug 12, 1967; pg. 3; Issue 57018.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS51866892

CANAL OPENING 'UP TO EGYPT'

From DAVID SPANIER—Jerusalem, Aug. 14

The reopening of the Suez Canal is up to Egypt. It was not closed by Israel action, Mr. Abba Eban, the Israel Foreign Minister, said tonight.

Israel's policy on the canal was, first, to maintain the existing cease-fire line down its centre, and, secondly, to make clear to the maritime powers that Israel was not obstructing ships from going through.

Accordingly, Mr. Eban said, these powers (among whom Britain is hit particularly badly) should apply to Egypt to reopen the canal, not to Israel.

If Egypt removed the blockships which it had sunk at both ends of the canal, it would be logical to suppose that the canal would be open again, but Israel would insist on the same free right of passage as any other country.

Just what action Israel would take to ensure her rights in the canal Mr. Eban did not say. It is obvious, however, that Israel is in a position to ensure that she gets her way, if the canal is opened.

Policy unchanged

Mr. Eban said that the Government had not had any tangible evidence so far, two months after the war, that any Arab state was ready to hold direct negotiations, but he believed that such tendencies would develop.

Israel policy has not changed since the end of the United Nations General Assembly. Mr. Eban, who was answering questions from journalists, made it clear that the present situation of the cease-fire could be changed only by a full peace settlement.

He rejected "vague, intermediate solutions which fall short of a radical peace settlement". These he described as euphemisms designed to provide Israel's neighbours with an escape route for normal negotiation.

He also dismissed declarations by third parties as irrelevant to the central issue of direct talks. It would be a disservice by these people, he said, in what appeared to be a reference to President Tito's visit to the Middle East, to be too active in devising alternative solutions to a negotiated settlement.

If the area of choice were restricted to maintaining the present situation or negotiating peace, then the idea might seriously enter Arab minds, he said. This was the key to territorial questions. "We shall either keep the map as it exists today or make a new map of the Middle East." What this new map would be like would emerge only from negotiations.

All options open

Commenting on recent remarks by General Dayan the Defence Minister, about Israel holding historical rights on the west bank of the Jordan, Mr. Eban said that all decisions would be taken by the Cabinet as a whole, and not by individual pronouncements. The course of wisdom was to keep all options open.

Mr. Eban also expressed confidence that all refugees from the west bank who wished to return would be able to do so by the deadline of August 31. The Israel authorities were, however, screening the entry forms, now being submitted, to exclude terrorists, in the light of the Jordan Government's incitement to the refugees to violence.

This behaviour by Jordan was entirely out of keeping with the humanitarian arrangement for the return of refugees, said Mr. Eban, and Israel was justified in observing stringent security.

Canal Opening 'Up To Egypt'.
From DAVID SPANIER

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Aug 15, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57020.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67988751

LANGUAGE LINK WITH ANCIENT EGYPT

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT—New York, Aug. 15

Tricks of grammar among a tiny, uncombative tribe in the rough country of northern Uganda may mark them as surviving cultural heirs of the ancient Egyptian empire. They are called the Teuso, there are only 1,500 of them left, and they lead modest lives as hunters and gatherers, with no wealth in cattle. They live in the spurs of the Morungole mountains, near the frontiers with Kenya and Sudan.

At a conference in Ann Arbor, Michigan, Professor Archibald Tucker, of the London School of Oriental and African Studies, said today that the Teuso may have survived because theirs is an unproductive territory desired by no other tribe, and because they are unaggressive by nature and have kept running to live.

Their language, like that of eight or nine other similar tribes, is an island of exotic identity in regions dominated by the speech of Bantu, Cushitic or Masai peoples. The Teuso, who call themselves the Ik, have survived perennial raids from their neighbours by taking refuge in caves whenever danger threatens.

Until now, Professor Tucker told the 27th international congress of orientalists at the University of Michigan, anthropologists have looked for links with the bushmen of South Africa. Linguistic comparisons have now led him back to the classical tongue of ancient Egypt.

The decline of the Egyptian empire, beginning about 2,700 years ago, pushed the centres of Egyptian power and culture farther south. When the Assyrians sacked Thebes in 700 B.C., the Egyptians took their capital to Napata, on the Nile north of Khartum. Later the Greeks and Romans kept the movement going, and the classical language of the Egyptian empire died out in practical use, and became eventually a challenge to scholarship.

Professor Tucker came across the first clue to a link between the Teuso and ancient Egypt when he met in Kampala an anthropologist who had been living among them. Most comparisons have been made on the basis of vocabulary. Professor Tucker was interested in grammar, and his colleague's notes on Ik grammar put him on to Egyptian at once.

He went to the mountains himself, and confirmed his first impressions. For example, the Ik personal pronouns showed links with those of ancient Egyptian in its middle period, which developed about 2000 B.C., later became stylized into the classical written language of the Nile, and died out about the time of Christ.

Language Link With Ancient Egypt.
FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Aug 16, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57021.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS84372752

S ARABIA DENIES CONTROL LOST

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Aden, Aug. 16

After a long silence, the South Arabian Federal Government today denied claims of the extremist National Liberation Front (N.L.F.) that it controlled five states of the federation.

Immediately after the denial was broadcast, the Federal Government radio played a tape-recorded statement by the Ruler of Wahidi offering to abdicate "in the public interest".

The Federal Government statement said: "The situation in the states of Dathina, Lahej, Shaib, Dhala, and Muflahi is normal. South Arabian armed forces are in control of all these areas, and there is no truth in reports that control has passed into the hands of dissidents.

"In Dathina, the head of the administration, Abdul Qadar ash-Shaye, has resigned for administrative reasons following an outbreak of tribal fighting in which five persons have been killed and 19 injured. The Dathina State Council is meeting shortly to elect a successor, and in the meantime units of the South Arabian armed forces are keeping the peace. Latest reports from the area indicate that the situation is calm and has returned to normal."

Amir Ali bin Muhammad bin Said al-Wahidi, the 32-year-old Ruler of Wahidi sultanate, in his broadcast today appealed for a united effort to save South Arabia from its present misery and offered to abdicate in the public interest.

Welcoming the United Nations resolutions on South Arabia, the Amir said he was fully prepared to negotiate with all political organizations in reaching a solution and urged the people to unite and rescue the country from going over the brink.

An attempt by an armed gang to capture Kirish, an important customs post this side of the federal border with the Yemen Republic, failed today, the security authorities said.

The Egyptian-backed Front for the Liberation of Occupied South Yemen (Flosy) had earlier claimed that it had captured Kirish and surrounding villages, and seized the Treasury and arms.

In Aden today, Arabs armed with rifles fired 40 rounds at a picket in the Mansoura area, wounding a British soldier. The driver and an Arab passenger were killed and three other passengers wounded when a bus came in the path of fire.

Two men of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders today shot dead an Arab who twice tried to break through a search cordon, a military spokesman said.

BEIRUT, Aug. 16.—President Sallal of the Yemen Republic has rejected the agreement on ending the Yemen war, signed by King Faisal of Saudi Arabia and President Nasser of Egypt in Jiddah in 1965, according to a statement from the Yemen Embassy today.—*Reuter.*

S Arabia Denies Control Lost.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Aug 17, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57022.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67988753

APPROVED SCHOOLS

From Professor Brian Stanley

Sir,—Schools range from the barely satisfactory, where heavy-handed and unimaginative staff do a heavy-handed and unimaginative job, to the excellent, where dedicated and devoted people do an excellent job. No doubt Approved Schools are the same, though the pupils present a bigger challenge.

If your readers are interested to know towards which extreme their nearest Approved School tends, they should ask the Head to let them visit it. If they are not happy about what they see, they can offer, if they have hobbies which appeal to boys or girls, to give voluntary help at the school. In this way they may ease the inevitable strains of a school where so many children are difficult, and where staff are sometimes at their wits' end for lack of time to give children and young people the individual understanding and friendship that they need.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

BRIAN STANLEY, Director, Institute of Education.

The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, St. Thomas' Street, Newcastle upon Tyne 1, Aug. 15.

ISRAEL AND THE CANAL

From Mr. Michael Adams

Sir,—Mr. Abba Eban, the Israeli Foreign Minister, has a well-deserved reputation for verbal ingenuity. We should not allow his sophistries to blind us to the facts about the Suez Canal. (I refer to the report you publish today from your Correspondent in Jerusalem.)

The canal is closed today, and is likely to remain closed for a long time, because Israel attacked Egypt on June 5 and because Israeli troops are now camped along the Eastern bank of the canal, more than 100 miles inside Egyptian territory. Whatever views one holds about the origins of the dispute between Israel and the Arabs, these are facts which cannot be disputed.

Your correspondent quotes Mr. Eban as saying: "We shall either keep the map as it exists today or make a new map of the Middle East". This high-handed pronouncement by the representative of a small minority in the area reflects Israel's insistence on her own political objectives at the expense of all the other interested parties. Britain is one of these and has a closer interest than any other country, apart from Egypt, in the reopening of the Suez Canal. As a direct result of the actions of Mr. Eban and his colleagues it appears that the price of petrol in Britain will shortly be increased by twopence a gallon.

It would be interesting to know how many of your readers find this an acceptable situation.

Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL ADAMS.

South Lodge, Buchan Hill, Crawley, Sussex, Aug. 15.

THE STANDARD STILE

From Mr. Don Gresswell

Sir,—May I be permitted, as the instigator of the request to the British Standards Institution, to reply to Mr. Brian Johnson-Ferguson's question of "what or who started it?" in your columns (August 15).

As your correspondent clearly states, country stiles vary enormously, as do the 80 on his piece of land, all credit to his design techniques. I have no wish to see our countryside standardized with "street furniture" of the footpath.

However, there are good reasons for asking the B.S.I. to recommend dimensions for country stiles. First as an example, after some degree of nagging, I prevailed upon a local authority to provide a stile to cross an awkward fence from the highway. When completed it was found to have a step 30in. high from the ground, that is the height of an average table. This was enough to stop many folk, particularly the ladies and the old, from using the footpath at all. Secondly, I have found cases where the top bar of the stile is about 5ft. high, while the adjoining fence is only 3ft.; which way will sheep prefer to hop?

The British Standards Institution have prepared specifications for gates and fences, why not for stiles—so that they can be used by the walkers for whom they are intended and not as a test for climbing the barricades?

Yours faithfully,

DON GRESSWELL.

Bridge House, Grange Park, N.21.

Israel And The Canal.
MICHAEL ADAMS. South Lodge, Buchan Hill, Crawley, Sussex, Aug 15

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Aug 17, 1967; pg. 9; Issue 57022.

Category: Letters to the Editor

Gale Document Number:CS152661265

TITO SAYS HE IS OPTIMISTIC

Next step in Middle East

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Cairo, Aug. 17

President Nasser and President Tito of Yugoslavia had a final round of formal discussions in Alexandria today on the Middle East crisis.

President Tito afterwards left for home on board his yacht Galeb. He had returned to Egypt yesterday after talks in Syria and Iraq.

Yugoslav sources said that he had gained the impression that all the Arab countries were determined to erase the traces of Israel's aggression and that no political settlement could be achieved without a withdrawal of Israel forces from occupied Arab territory.

He would carry on his consultations with leaders of the Arab, Socialist and non-aligned countries, as well as with some western states.

Message for Delhi

He conferred yesterday with the Indian Ambassador in Cairo and discussed the attitude of the non-aligned states. He handed the Ambassador what was described as an important message for Mrs. Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister.

ALEXANDRIA, Aug. 17.—President Tito said in a statement after today's meeting that he was optimistic as a result of his talks.

"All the Arab leaders I met were agreed on the need for a political solution to the present Middle East situation", he said. "Action designed to reach such a solution is under way but I cannot give you details."

He said he had made his journey to get first-hand information; he wanted to see what action could be taken and to learn the views of the Arab leaders. Yugoslavia was anxious to see a solution to the problem "favourable to the Arabs".

The Cairo evening newspaper *Al Masaa* said that the two Presidents had reached agreement on a number of points concerning the struggle of the non-aligned countries against the "imperialist and colonialist plots" threatening their sovereignty. They had also agreed on "strengthening cooperation between their two countries to reach a settlement of the Middle East crisis".—*Agence France Presse.*

Refugees cross Jordan today

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

JERUSALEM, AUG. 17

The first 1,000 refugees from the west bank of hte Jordan to return home will recross the river at 7 a.m. tomorrow.

All of them are people who left the west bank between the start of the Middle East war and July 4. People who chose to leave after July 4 were required to sign a paper stating that they left of their own free will, and they will not be allowed to go back under the present scheme.



Mr. Evangelos Averoff.

Mr Averoff to receive pardon

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

ATHENS, AUG. 17

Mr. Evangelos Averoff, the former Greek Foreign Minister, who was sentenced yesterday by a military tribunal to five years in gaol for breaking emergency regulations, is to be granted a pardon by King Constantine on the recommendation of the Government. This was announced today by Mr. Kollias, the Prime Minister, who added that other politicians sentenced for similar offences will also be pardoned.

Mr. Averoff, who is 57, was arrested on July 12 for holding a social gathering at his suburban villa without police permission. Under legislation introduced by the Greek military Government unauthorized gatherings of more than five persons are prohibited.

In a statement issued today, Mr. Kollias said that the severity of the sentence received by Mr. Averoff is explained by the fact that justice today is not "at the service of the private interests of certain individuals". The Prime Minister, added, however, that "in order to prevent the exploitation of the verdict, and to prevent accusations that the Government is persecuting political personalities, the Cabinet has decided not to pursue the enforcement of the conviction".

Tito Says HE IS Optimistic.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT-Cairo, Aug. 17

The Times (London, England),Friday, Aug 18, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57023.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS69037330

Trade beats boycott

By JOHN PRICE

Arab hopes that the trade boycott on British goods would effectively halt United Kingdom business activity in the Middle East appear to be fading.

Trade figures for the month of July are not yet available but Britain's exports to the Middle East in June were higher, at £17m., than the £16m. registered in the same month last year. Reliable sources suggest that no large drop is likely to be seen in July.

Although it is true to say that several orders placed in May were recorded in June, several major British companies are currently negotiating business and working on contracts in Middle East countries—including Egypt, the country most actively engaged in urging support for a continued boycott.

Imperial Chemical Industries, Motherwell Bridge and Engineering, Euclid U.K. and Electric Power Storage are all currently engaged in fulfilling contracts with Egypt, and major companies such as English Electric and Associated Electrical Industries are at present working on contracts in Saudi Arabia. One shipload of fertilizer at least has sailed from I.C.I.'s Billingham works for Egypt since the boycott started.

A company spokesman said yesterday that trade with Egypt, while still continuing, was the result of letters of credit opened before the crisis.

Trade beats boycott.
By JOHN PRICE

The Times (London, England),Friday, Aug 18, 1967; pg. 15; Issue 57023.

Category: Business and Finance

Gale Document Number:CS252407058

Slowdown of Russian arms supplies to Egypt

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT—Washington, Aug. 20

In spite of large shipments of new arms from the Soviet Union to Egypt, United States officials estimate that it will take President Nasser two years to build the Egyptian armed forces back to the strength and relative efficiency they claimed before the Arab-Israel war in June.

According to American estimates based on first-hand reports from the Middle East, Israel still holds roughly 5,000 Egyptian officers and non-commissioned officers as prisoners of war.

Washington's assessment is that Israel freed thousands of Egyptian soldiers after the four-day war on the Sinai peninsula, but kept the more experienced officers and n.c.o.s to delay Cairo's recovery from the war and the rebuilding of the Egyptian Army.

Israel military officers are reported to share the American estimate that, as a result, it will be at least two years before Nasser has an Army and Air Force even equal to that which fought Israel unsuccessfully in June.

Dramatic and well-publicized Soviet shipments of new arms have aroused fears that the Nasser regime will soon be in shape to launch "another round" of war against Israel. Intelligence experts in the United States discount this fear.

The Soviet arms shipments to Egypt have in the past month dropped off sharply from the immediate postwar level, when Moscow staged a dramatic airlift that is reported to have included 250 flights by Soviet transports. In the past month most new Soviet equipment has been shipped by sea.

Estimates vary on the volume of new Soviet military aid to Egypt, but officials generally agree that Moscow has provided the Egyptians with roughly 150 aircraft to replace about 300 lost during the war.

United States officials also estimate that the Russians have provided the Egyptians with 200 to 250 tanks to replace about 500 medium and heavy tanks (TU-54s, TU-55s and Stalin-3s) lost in the war.—*New York Times News Service.*

Slowdown of Russian arms supplies to Egypt.
FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Aug 22, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57026.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67595542

Lebanese appeal to open the Israel border

From PETER NICHOLS, who recently visited the Middle East

An appeal, it is reported in the Beirut press, has gone to the Lebanese Government from leading hotel proprietors proposing freedom of travel for foreign visitors who wish to cross the frontier between Lebanon and (censored). Some interest was aroused, according to these reports, by the suggestion to throw open the . . . (blank) . . . (blank) . . . (blank).

No prizes need be offered for solving this mystery weaved by the official censor. Identity in the Middle East is, however, far deeper a problem than that of knowing who is who and what is what.

This small instance, moreover, is typical of a condition of torn feelings, a confused mixture of half-concealed common sense, of ineptitude, and, in the background at least, of concern about what to put first in the muddled wake of the June conflict.

The hoteliers' appeal is simple. Some of them, but by no means all, want the opening of the southern border with Israel. The reason for their demand is equally simple. This year Lebanese tourism has suffered a great setback because of the war.

Next year, according to present prospects, it will face disaster. One of the sponsors of the appeal to the Government says that ordinarily at this time of the year his hotel has 35,000 nights booked for the forthcoming season. So far he has none, and if the present conditions continue he does not expect any.

Holy City climax

The blow was delivered by Israel's occupation of Jerusalem. Most people who go to Lebanon do so as part of a journey which has as its climax a visit to the Holy City. At present it is not possible for an ordinary tourist to cross the Jordan into Israel-occupied territory to see Jerusalem. The proposal under discussion has been that the Namoura border post should be opened to tourists—in the same way as it is open now for some diplomatists and United Nations staff.

A second reason for suggesting the opening of the southern border was that it obviated reliance on access through Syria, a popular route to Jerusalem because it included a stop at Damascus. Syria, in the Arab spectrum, is regarded as the most unpredictable country and the most extreme.

The Lebanese hoteliers have in fact raised some crucial issues concerning the Arab-Israeli conflict. One of the most important is the economic cost of spurning any form of settlement. Many Arabs would like to ignore it, but the pull of economic difficulties is strong, especially in Egypt (no Suez revenues, no tourism, cotton crop threatened) and Jordan (no west bank, no tourism).

Political moderation as practised in Lebanon and in a less complicated way elsewhere is usually accompanied by economic and ideological moderation. But moderate opinion has evidently grasped the point which emerged from the war that moderation when faced with serious difficulties is inclined to become more moderate whereas a revolutionary doctrine becomes more extreme. Hence the increased conflict between Arab socialism and Arab conservatism.

It is the principal immediate dilemma of the Arab world. It is also the difference between the countries supporting a self-damaging economic policy so long as they feel it is damaging the west and those more eager to forget what will hurt Arab economies.

Common sense no doubt points to moderation, to some sort of accommodation with the enemy, whether as a matter of opening a frontier post for the use of non-Arabs or a wider agreement by which the territories lost in June might be returned. But anyone arriving in the Arab world soon perceives the extraordinary depth of feeling that somehow the wrong done by Israel will, by existing, somehow be put right. It is a feeling beyond what the west—and Israel—know as reason.

Louder and Louder

Censorship always threatens to make a country look ridiculous. There is the feeling in Arab censorship that not only is security at stake but that some things have no right to be put down in black and white because their meaning can only be distorted when made precise.

One has the impression that Arabs are able to talk of their cause with freedom and without diffidence only with other Arabs, with whom they either violently disagree or agree by saying the same things louder and louder in unison, like a powerful Greek chorus.

There is the sense of having been wronged. There is also the sense that unless Israel expansionism is curbed the Arabs will be driven—as is already happening—deeper and deeper into their deserts and that the area between the Euphrates and the eastern Mediterranean will finally pass into Israel hands.

This is the thought which, combined with the sense of having been deeply wronged, seems most to prevent an Arab from thinking in terms of compromise or of being able to admit that a defeat was more than a set-back provoked by an unholy alliance of Zionists and imperialists.

The Arabs may be forced to admit that as a temporary measure an arrangement will have to be made to force Israel to give back part of what was occupied in June. But there is still everything taken from them since 1948. How to get it all back?

The real clash is explained as one of *modern techniques against ancient Arab habits of mind.* That is probably the deepest dilemma of all. *In order to win the Arabs must change, become modern, stop their dreaming.* So goes their own argument. Cease virtually to be Arabs. Then their numerical superiority would tell. For the moment any such change looks distant.

Lebanese appeal to open the Israel border.
From PETER NICHOLS, who recently visited the Middle East

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Aug 23, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57027.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68513047

SUEZ PACT MAY BE EXTENDED

From DAVID SPANIER—Jerusalem, Aug. 22

General Odd Bull, the United Nations representative for the ceasefire, and General Moishe Dayan, Israel's Minister of Defence, are to discuss the next stage in the Suez Canal arrangements at a meeting here tomorrow. The one month's standstill on using the canal, accepted by Israel and Egypt, expires on Sunday.

It is expected that General Bull will propose an extension of the agreement for another month, or perhaps even longer. The main objective of this, it is understood, is to extend the ceasefire into the beginning of the next United Nations General Assembly. While it is in session, it might serve to discourage either side from military action on the canal.

General Bull, who has been flying between Cairo and Jerusalem for the past few weeks, and lately paid courtesy visits to Beirut, Damascus, and Amman, is hoping to take a month's holiday at home in Norway.

Mr. Abba Eban, the Israel Foreign Minister, today welcomed Mr. Ernesto Thalmann, U Thant's personal representative, who has arrived here on a fortnight's fact-finding mission on Jerusalem.

"I welcome you to the capital of Israel in the new era of its unity and peace", Mr. Eban said. Jerusalem had passed through a dark period of its history during the past two decades. As a result of recent events a new and dramatic change had come over the life and destiny of the city.

Sanctity gained

Where there had been division there was now unity, Mr. Eban added. Where there had been a tense military frontier there was now peace and security. Where there had been desecration, sacrilege, obstruction of access and the assertion of unilateral and exclusive control over the holy places there was now, for the first time in history, a disposition to bring the holy places under the responsibility of those who held them sacred.

Mr. Eban said that the situation in Jerusalem had thus improved in three respects: unity, peace and sanctity. He was proud to explain these improvements to visitors from abroad and from international organizations.

Since the specific international interest in Jerusalem had arisen exclusively from the holy places, "Israel was developing its ideas on this point in a constructive dialogue with the universal interests concerned". Israel would apply the same concept to the Muslim holy places which she was discussing in connexion with the Christian holy places.

Mr. Thalmann said on arrival that he would fulfil his mission to the best of his ability and in complete objectivity. He was greeted at the airport by two groups of demonstrators, both urging the United Nations to "keep its hands off" Jerusalem. One group had a placard saying "Tell U Thant that Jerusalem is as Jewish as Berne is Swiss".

CAIRO, Aug. 22.—Egypt is determined to keep the Suez Canal closed until "all traces of Israel agression have been eliminated", Hassan Abbas Zaki, the Egyptian Minister of the Economy, was reported today to have told a conference of Arab finance, economy and petroleum Ministers in Baghdad.

The authoritative Cairo newspaper *Al Ahram* said Egypt's decision was made on the basis that "this vital waterway has been subjected to aggression, and its closure was a defensive economic measure against hostile countries who exploited Arab wealth to consolidate Israel militarily and economically".

Mr. Zaki was quoted as saying the Arab economy Ministers would meet in Algeria in October to discuss increasing trade between Arab countries.—*Reuter.*

Leading article, page 7.

Suez Pact May Be Extended.
From DAVID SPANIER-

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Aug 23, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57027.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68644119

Briton found dead in Pacific

LIMA, Aug. 23.—The body of a 27-year-old British engineer, Anthony Wilfred Mallins, from London, has been found floating in the Pacific, police here reported. Mr. Mallins had been missing for five days. The police said foul play was not suspected.

According to the dead man's landlord he was due to return to England next week to get married. He had been working as an engineer for a British firm at the port of Callao.—*Reuter.*

Crew from Suez ships in Cairo

CAIRO, Aug. 23.—About 100 crew from four British ships stranded in the Suez Canal's Great Bitter Lakes since the Arab-Israel war in June arrived here tonight on their way back to London. They are due to leave Egypt on Friday.—*Reuter.*

News in Brief.
The Times (London, England),Thursday, Aug 24, 1967; pg. 3; Issue 57028.

Category: News in Brief

Gale Document Number:CS51342616

CHINA EVACUATION PROBLEMS

No immediate British plan

By PETER HOPKIRK

If anti-British violence continues in China, the Foreign Office may be faced with the difficult task of trying to evacuate more than 100 Britons, including small children, known to be living there.

At present, violence appears to have been directed strictly against British officials and government property, and last night the Foreign Office said they had no immediate plans to try to get Britons to safety.

However, the complexities of such a rescue operation, should it ever become necessary, are matters obviously receiving attention in Whitehall at the moment.

Bank officials safe

One of the biggest problems is knowing precisely what is happening in areas away from Peking, though a message reaching Hongkong yesterday by telephone said that three British bank officials and their families living in Shanghai were safe.

Compared with the recent mass evacuation of Britons from Egypt, a similar operation in China, if it ever came to it, would present immense problems.

In the first place, the Foreign Office do not know precisely how many Britons there are at present in China. Although between 60 and 70 are registered with the British mission in Peking, it is believed that there may be at least 100 more who have not registered.

Again, after the burning of the British mission building in Peking, it is not known for certain whether the records, containing the names and exact whereabouts of those who have registered, have survived.

Mail service doubts

This, plus the fact that the British mission no longer has an office to work from, would make it very difficult to get in touch with people quickly.

In Egypt, the British mission sent express letters to all British subjects registered with them advising them to leave the country at once. They sent telegrams to those living in remote areas. With parts of China in a state approaching civil war, there is no certainty that such letters would arrive in any event. The only other way to communicate with Britons living in centres outside Peking might be by the B.B.C. overseas news.

Even if it were decided to evacuate Britons, or at least advise them to leave China, the task of moving them would present considerable difficulties. In China a foreigner cannot just get on a train to Hongkong or fly out in an airliner, as there are severe restrictions on travel. To leave the country requires an exit visa.

An evacuation move, therefore, would require the full cooperation of the Chinese authorities, and, to judge by the current experience of British diplomatists trying to leave China, this cooperation might by no means be certain.

Britons living in China today include engineers, businessmen, teachers, students, bankers, and families. The biggest community outside Peking is in Shanghai, where 35 Britons are registered with the British authorities. This figure includes 10 widows "of Chinese origin", four Australians and a Canadian.

It also includes five teachers and three members of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. Two of the bankers have their wives with them, and one family have an 18-month-old daughter.

Yesterday the London office said it had received a message from its Hongkong office, which had managed to telephone to Shanghai, saying that they were safe.

The Chartered Bank has a man in Shanghai, also with his wife. In Lanchow are a lone British engineer and his wife.

It is believed that many of the 100-odd people who have not registered with the British authorities are working in various capacities for the communists, and might wish to stay in China.

It is quite possible that if relations deteriorated further between Britain and China then Britons would be expelled.

MiGs attack on bombers

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

WASHINGTON, AUG. 23

Two United States naval bombers were under attack by four MiG fighters when they vanished over China on Monday, Defence Department sources revealed today. Pentagon officials said that the A6A Intruders, which each had a crew of two men, were entering the clouds at an altitude of 6,000ft. "when they were taken under attack by at least four enemy aircraft, the last radio transmission was a warning from the aircraft that they were under attack".

The officials added that the two Intruders were driven north from their original targets near Hanoi by a combination of heavy anti-aircraft fire, aircraft missiles, and attacking MiGs. Apart from the loss of the crew members, officials here are disturbed by the fact that the highly sophisticated navigational and target-locating equipment that the bombers carried may have fallen into Chinese hands.

Kenya may break with Peking

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

NAIROBI, AUG. 23

The Chinese Embassy here today rejected a Note from the Kenya Government protesting against an attack on the Kenya Embassy in Peking.

Instead, the Chinese Chargé d'Affaires tried to reverse the position and hand over a Note protesting at a recent statement by Mr. Daniel Moi, the Kenya Vice-President, which accused China of interfering in Kenya's internal affairs. It now seems likely that Kenya might sever relations between the two countries.

The Kenya Note said the Government had learnt with "bitter disappointment" that its embassy in Peking had been subjected to organized demonstrations by mobs which had smashed windows and caused damage to property belonging to the Kenya Government. It called on the Chinese Government to repair the damage and bring "misdirected and malicious" offenders to justice.

China Evacuation Problems.
By PETER HOPKIRK

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Aug 24, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57028.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67857688

Arab wounds unhealed

From JEROME CAMINADA—Beirut, Aug. 23

King Husain, of Jordan, reached Lebanon today on his last call of a carefully selective swing round the Middle East and Arab world which, combined with the equally urgent travels of other Arab leaders, has now sent the Arabs into a trance of expectation.

President Arif of Iraq is busily on the move and so is Muhammad Ahmad Mahgoub, Prime Minister of Sudan. There is so much talk besides of meetings and consultations culminating in a summit gathering in Khartum that the impression is being created that all the Arabs need to break out of their troubles is to meet.

If only that were true. The wounds of this year are still bleeding; the disarray is still ingrained; the future is still blurred.

Close beneath the surface there is really a searching and a crying out. The journeyings of presidents and kings are only one symptom of a people fighting the peace. The aim of the prominent travellers is to assemble all the Arab heads of states and governments to consider what to do directly and indirectly about Israel.

Once they have met, however, these leaders must agree on decisions and having made decisions, they have to see they are carried out. So far, not even the first stage is assured.

King Husain's journey took him first to the Persian Gulf area, including Iran, for he has hoped to rally also Muslim non-Arab sentiment. He left out Iraq, though 10 days ago President Arif visited him in Amman. The king also avoided Syria and, having then gone to Saudi Arabia and Sudan and as far as Morocco, he missed Egypt and Algeria too.

Early in July, King Husain was in Cairo in the company of those whom he has now ignored and who demand "positive" action against Israel and countries considered to have supported her. The riddle is whether the king has been trying to get the moderates to support him in being more realistic.

Another puzzle is President Nasser's role. With an unprecedented open division now visible among the Cairo press, and the Egyptian leader almost alone among his fellows remaining silent, the question is being asked whether he approves of King Husain's mission or, at any rate, does not know which way to turn.

President Arif went yesterday to Kuwait and today to Saudi Arabia and is expected to descend on Beirut late on Friday after King Husain has gone home. Muhammad Mahgoub saw King Faisal in Saudi Arabia yesterday, spent last night in Beirut worrying over visible Syrian obstinacy about attending a summit on the proposed date next week and dashed off to Damascus today. He was expected back in Beirut later before hurrying on to Cairo.

This is the pace now being set in political pilgrimages under the steadfast Middle East sun.

Arab wounds unhealed.
From JEROME CAMINADA

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Aug 24, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57028.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS101281048

Nasser agrees to plan for Yemen

Talks on details next week

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Cairo, Aug. 24

An advance was made today towards a solution of the Yemen problem—a problem which at one point brought Egypt and Saudi Arabia to the brink of war.

Muhammad Ahmed Mahgoub, the Prime Minister of Sudan, who is visiting Cairo, announced that President Nasser had accepted Sudanese proposals for a settlement, which had already been approved by King Faisal.

He said that President Nasser had approved the plan "in its entirety" and that the President and King Faisal would meet in Khartum to discuss details.

He did not say when they would meet, but reliable sources said that it was expected to be during the Arab summit conference which opens in Khartum on Tuesday.

Mr. Mahgoub said he would take part in the meeting with President Nasser and King Faisal.

It is believed that the Sudanese proposals might include the phased withdrawal of Egyptian troops from Yemen and their replacement by units from other Arab states, possibly Algeria and Tunisia; the termination of all Saudi assistance to the Yemen royalists; and the formation of a caretaker government, drawn from all sectors of opinion, pending the holding of a plebiscite.

During the recent Arab Foreign Ministers' conference in Khartum Egypt proposed the reactivation of the Jiddah agreement, signed by President Nasser and King Faisal in August, 1965, and suggested that neither Egypt nor Saudi Arabia should supervise its enforcement.

Pakistan message

The Jiddah agreement called for the withdrawal over a period of 10 months of the Egyptian troops backing the Yemen republican regime, the termination of all Saudi assistance to the Yemen royalists, and a plebiscite on the form of government for Yemen.

Mr. Sharifuddin Pirzada, the Pakistan Foreign Minister, had a meeting today with President Nasser during which they discussed the Middle East. Mr. Pirzada handed over a message from President Ayub Khan.

Pakistan sources said that President Nasser paid tribute to Pakistan's support for the Arab countries against Israel aggression.

Dayan party in Israel merger

TEL AVIV, Aug. 24.—The Rafi party of Israel's defence minister, Mr. Moshe Dayan and her elder statesman, Mr. David Ben-Gurion, decided tonight to merge with Mapai, the party from which they broke away in 1965.

If the new arrangement is agreed to by Mapai, it puts Mr. Dayan into a sound position for national leadership and consolidates his political standing. He would become a strong favourite for the premiership once Mr. Levi Eshkol, 72, decides to resign.

Mr. Ben-Gurion abstained from voting tonight. It was his quarrel with Mapai leaders which resulted in the formation of the splinter party. But he committed himself to be bound by his party's majority vote.

Confirmation of the merger is expected to be authorized on Sunday by the Mapai Party, led by Mr. Eshkol and his Foreign Minister, Mr. Abba Eban.

Also expected to join in the merger is Ahduth Ha'avoda, slightly to the left of Mapai and Rafi. Mr. Yigal Allon, the Labour Minister, and Mr. Israel Galili, the Information Minister, head this party which has been in alignment with Mapai since the last elections in 1965.

The name of the new political combination will be "The Israel Labour Party". Its prospective members hold 55 of the 120 Knesset (Parliament) seats.—*Associated Press.*

Nasser agrees to plan for Yemen.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT-

The Times (London, England),Friday, Aug 25, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57029.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS84110617

SUDAN LEAD FOR YEMEN PEACE

Arabs prepare for summit

From JEROME CAMINADA—Beirut, Aug. 25

Arab Foreign Ministers have begun converging on Khartum for another meeting which begins tomorrow as a curtain raiser to a summit gathering next Tuesday. Most Arab heads of state intend to get on with a conference regardless of whether the recalcitrant Syrian leaders attend.

Sudan is a good venue because the Arabs, amid their present threshing, are looking for some country, Arab or non-Arab, to show them the road to take.

Hopes are beginning to fall on Sudan after promising moves by Mr. Mahgoub, the Sudanese Prime Minister, to settle the quarrel over Yemen.

So far, Mahgoub's proposals have been accepted only in principle by President Nasser and King Faisal, the two men who matter outside Yemen. The Yemenis themselves have not gone even that far. Today Egypt is inclined to claim that she herself originated the present move, and neither the Yemen Republicans nor the Royalists seem to be impressed.

Extra safeguards

President Nasser and King Faisal outlined a settlement after meeting in Jiddah two years ago but this came to nothing. There are similarities between the Jiddah plan, which Egypt wants revived, and Sudan's present plan, though Sudan has proposed additional safeguards.

According to some reports, Sudan's formula is that Egyptian troops should leave Yemen in six to eight months, presumably at a date to be fixed when King Faisal and President Nasser meet privately in Khartum. Two years ago the withdrawal was to be within a slightly longer period.

Under the new plan, a neutral force formed by Sudan, Tunisia and Algeria, or by other countries acceptable to Egypt and Saudi Arabia, would step in. Two years ago there was to be no such outside agency, though it had been suggested.

Saudi support for the Royalists in money and kind would end, just as it was supposed to do in 1965. An interim government and later a plebiscite would be planned for Yemen as was also intended in 1965, but this time a neutral committee would try to make sure that the referendum took place.

"Plebiscite" and "referendum" are odd words to apply to a country like Yemen, where it might take a week or months to climb to dwellings perched on top of the massive granite walls that cleave the central mountains, to say nothing of reaching wanderers in the eastern desert.

But this vote is the nub of the whole idea, and President Sallal is on his way to see President Nasser because he does not like it. Both sides in the past have baulked at even any joint preliminary congress unless they could be sure beforehand that they had the winning hand.

The strongest impulse towards a settlement now, in spite of these obstacles, is the fact that President Nasser has recently lost a war.

Arab sniper fire wounds three

FROM OUR CORRESPONENT

TEL AVIV, AUG. 25

Two members of the Israel border police and a paratrooper were shot in an exchange of fire with an Arab sniper last night in the village of Abu Dis, south-east of Jerusalem.

Israel forces this morning demolished four buildings in the village as a punitive measure. A wounded Arab, suspected of being the sought sniper, was found in one of the houses.

Army units moved into the village after an Israel motorist reported that the highway was barricaded nearby and a sniper fired five shots at his car. Two bullet holes were found in the vehicle.

The wounded Arab, his father and brother were detained for interrogation, officials said.

Limits to Soviet commitment

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

CAIRO, AUG. 25

The Soviet Union is ready to give support and aid to the Arabs but at the same time "is not prepared to butt with its head against the United States because this would lead to a nuclear confrontation", Muhammad Hassaenin Heykel, editor of the authoritative *Al Ahram* said today.

In his weekly article he added that the Arab-Soviet friendship won for the Arab nation political, economic and military support of paramount importance. But a friend could not ask his friend to give what was not within his power, otherwise such friendship took the form of exploitation.

Although Russia is a dear friend of the Arab nation "it is a shameful mistake to consider everything done by the Soviet Union as indisputable gospel truth and anything else as heresy which leads to hell".

Sudan Lead For Yemen Peace.
From JEROME CAMINADA

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Aug 26, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57030.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67988762

RELEASE AND NO RELEASE

As travel becomes safer the political risks of moving about the world become more incalculable. The men who came home yesterday after enduring two and a half months of heat and boredom in the Suez Canal were allowed to leave because replacements to man their imprisoned ships arrived from Britain. Only last week did Egypt grant visas allowing these others to go and take post in this wasteful exercise of waiting for the day when the Suez Canal reopens. And that day, as is now plain, has become a counter in the bargaining over a general Middle Eastern settlement, to be used irrespective of concern for the ships and men confined within the Canal.

These ships and their crews were there by the purest chance. Twenty-four hours later and the chopper would have come down on another set of vessels. Though dilatory, at least the Egyptian Government has done something. The Algerian Government has shown itself far more careless of human rights in the detention of CAPTAIN DAVID TAYLOR and CAPTAIN TREVOR COPPLESTON, the pilots of the chartered aircraft in which MR. TSHOMBE was the precious cargo. At gunpoint they were forced to fly to Algiers, and there they have remained for two months, without any charge, and without any statement whatsoever by the Algerian Government justifying its action.

Of course this action cannot possibly be justified. Pleas that the pilots are comfortable, or that they are only under house arrest and not in gaol, hardly accord with the unwillingness of the Algerian Foreign Minister to grant the Swiss Ambassador an interview or to respond to the letter from MR. GEORGE BROWN which the Swiss Embassy in Algiers, acting on behalf of the British, transmitted. On two occasions only has a British official been able to see these two men, and that is as much satisfaction as can be had out of this Government that ought—judging by the experience of its own liberation struggle—to be among the most ardent defenders of human rights.

The excuses can be perceived but they can count for nothing. Plainly MR. TSHOMBE has become an embarrassment. The Algerians do not want to pass him on to the Congo as presumably was originally planned. Yet they cannot think what else they can do with this hot political potato. The Government in Algiers may itself have been wholly ignorant of the plot to kidnap MR. TSHOMBE. So were CAPTAIN TAYLOR and CAPTAIN COPPLESTON. There may have been some people in Algiers who were a party to it and the two pilots may unwittingly have learnt something of what was behind the operation. To release them might mean some information getting out that would be embarrassing. We do not know whether this is true, but even if it were so it is no excuse for the continued detention of two innocent men who have now been held for two months without any charge or, indeed, without any of the elementary international conventions that should apply to such a case.

Release And No Release.
The Times (London, England),Saturday, Aug 26, 1967; pg. 11; Issue 57030.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS184904986

U N watchful after Sinai incident

Egypt plane shot down

From DAVID SPANIER, El Qantara, Aug. 27

United Nations observers are watchful and alert after the incidents this weekend. An Egyptian Sukhoi-7 jet fighter was shot down yesterday by Israel anti-aircraft batteries near Bir Gafgafa in Sinai, 40 miles from the canal.

The pilot was killed in the crash. A second aircraft managed to evade the groundfire and escaped back across the canal.

A military spokesman said that Egyptian aircraft had crossed the cease-fire boundary of the canal on several occasions in recent weeks, but only marginally. This time the fighters, presumed to be on a reconnaisance mission because they were flying very low, were penetrating into Sinai. There was also an exchange of fire between Egyptian and Israel forces for about an hour at dusk yesterday about five miles south of Ismailia.

The Israelis, who were positioned about 500 yards east of the canal, returned fire opened by Egyptians on the west bank. There were no Israel casualties.

This was the first flare-up on the canal since the battles of mid-July. But even when it is calm here, life is extremely active for the United Nations observers. They are on the move up to 18 hours a day.

On the front line

The canal itself looks as flat and burnished as a strip of copper laid across the desert. On the far side a troop of Egyptian soldiers amble by in the heat. The blue United Nations flag hangs straight down the mast.

Major Roy Skinner's cheerful Australian voice reports that all is relatively quiet. As chief of the United Nations observers on the Israel side of the canal, he has a team of 12 officers—Burmese, Finnish, French and Swedish—to supervise 67 miles of the canal. "We are sitting on the front line here," Major Skinner said.

"We keep the canal under surveillance from dawn to dark, at a number of observation posts and along the roads". Major Skinner said. "We do not have enough men and we are kept pretty busy."

Six more observers are being sent by Finland. Some observation posts are just sand dunes, others are huts equipped with refrigerators. Major Skinner has instant direct communication back to Jerusalem to notify General Bull, head of the cease-fire team, of any activity along the canal.

The Israel Government has, somewhat reluctantly, handed back a part of Government House in Jerusalem to the United Nations. This building, on a hilltop with a splendid view of the Old City, was formerly the residence of the British High Commissioner in mandatory times. Israel regards General Bull and his staff as returning, however, only as observers of the cease-fire, not in their former capacity of United Nations overseers of the armistice agreements, which Israel no longer recognizes.

Mixed Arab feelings on Britain

From JEROME CAMINADA

BEIRUT, AUG. 27

Relations between Britain and the Arabs will form a strong emotional current at the Arab summit conference in Khartum this week, and may be a potent factor in shaping decisions. Much of the agenda is on dealings with the west because this is the only medium the Arabs can find to strike back at Israel.

There is hate and hurt in some Arab minds, though British and Arab officials may try to minimize it. It is uncertain, however, how far this will be reflected in what emerges from Khartum.

In Lebanon, for example, official policy is moderate. The British Ambassador was sent home in June and Lebanon withdrew her own from London. But nothing further has been done to freeze political, economic or cultural relations, and Lebanon would welcome any sudden British tourist invasion.

Tourists, of course, mean money, but the ordinary people about Beirut are not thinking merely of their next piastre in being pleasant to visitors. I have found a remarkable friendliness among former acquaintances here.

Extremist anger

That is one side of the picture, but there is another, very different and real. Some intellectuals speak almost of a state of war with Britain, particularly former Palestinians who are in a frame of mind that will not pass for years.

These extremists do not shrug off the story that American and British aircraft helped the Israelis. They believe what King Husain and President Nasser said at the time, and think they have their own evidence besides.

More moderate members of this group do not believe that Britain intervened directly, but say they are perplexed by the "wall of enmity" towards the Arabs in the British press and on the radio last June. They yearn to be told there was no general enmity, but do not accept it when they are told.

All these elements in Beirut can be translated to other countries. Jordan, too, depends on British and American material, money and tourism, but is also caught in the discontent of her former Palestinians and bitterness at losing her most fruitful territory.

Iraq is also looking both ways and is being associated with anti-western proposals such as withholding oil and switching funds abroad. Yet British engineers have been invited to resume work there, and one or two

Suez agreement extended

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

JERUSALEM, AUG. 27

Israel and Egypt are to extend indefinitely their agreement to abstain from navigation of the Suez Canal. The Israel Cabinet accepted the extension tonight, on the expiry of the original one-month agreement.

U N watchful after Sinai incident.
From DAVID SPANIER

The Times (London, England),Monday, Aug 28, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57031.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67333404



Arab refugees receiving money from Jordan authorities before crossing the Jordan to return to their homes on the Israel-occupied west bank.

Sudanese leader brings Arabs together

CAIRO, AUG. 27

If preparation were all that was needed, the Arab summit meeting due to open in Khartum on Tuesday evening would be ensured of resounding success. The past two weeks have seen an unparalleled coming and going of Arab kings and presidents between their capitals to sound out each others' opinions and presumably lobby support for their own.

The man who has done more than anyone to see that the meeting does take place—which seemed doubtful only last week—is Muhammad Mahjoub, Sudan's tall, austere looking Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, who is a poet in his spare time.

He cannot have been writing much recently. His outstanding performance as chief Arab spokesman at the United Nations General Assembly debates on the Middle East confirms the impression that he prefers international diplomacy to domestic affairs.

He is widely mentioned as a possible new Arab League secretary-general when the post comes up for renewal next month.

Three absentees

In spite of Mahjoub's efforts, attendance at the Khartum meeting will not be quite complete.

King Hassan of Morocco has said he will not be going but will send Dr. Muhammad Benheima, his Prime Minister, instead.

President Bourguiba of Tunisia has been forbidden to fly by his doctors after his recent heart attack but he has already given his views on the vital point at issue by declaring that the Arabs should make peace with Israel. Crown Prince Rida of Libya is expected to represent his elderly and ailing uncle, King Idris, but all other 10 Arab rulers are likely to be there.

Ahmed Shukairy, the controversial head of the Palestine Liberation Organization, whom many Arabs see as one of those chiefly responsible for the disaster, is insisting on taking part in the Foreign Ministers' and summit meetings.

A cartoon today in the Cairo newspaper *Al Ahram* shows a lorry climbing a steep hill. It is marked "Unified Arab Action", and a large crate stamped "Yemeni Problem" is being jettisoned. A disconsolate Zionist and imperialist looking on are saying: "Oh, black day! The lorry can now get to the summit."

Bridges down

Beyond doubt it has been the intractable Yemen affair which has nullified the positive results of all previous Arab summits by keeping down the bridges between Arab radicals and conservatives.

In 1964 Israel had reason to be concerned by the unified Arab military command, but by last year, when King Faisal and King Husain were ranged against Syria and Egypt, the Arab front once again fell to pieces.

Mahjoub has said firmly that his plan for a solution in Yemen, whose details are to be discussed by King Faisal and President Nasser at private meetings in Khartum, is secret and that anything so far published about it is "entirely wrong". Yet it is possible to estimate how far each side will go towards compromise.

King Faisal's aim remains what it has always been—Egyptian withdrawal. President Nasser wants to preserve the Yemen Republic at least until Britain leaves South Arabia. It would therefore seem unavoidable that Arab troops from other countries must be brought in to replace the Egyptians, if only for a few months.

Economic issues

Apart from measures for strengthening the Arab front, which will take the form of reviving the dead Arab solidarity agreement of the 1965 Casablanca summit, the chief items on the Khartum agenda are economic, arising from recommendations of the Baghdad Finance Ministers' meeting. These have been kept secret but are known to cover four main subjects:

The use of Arab oil in the struggle with "enemy nations"; the withdrawal of sterling cash balances from British banks; the creation of a joint Arab defence fund (based on Kuwaiti and Algerian proposals), and foreign interests in the Arab world, including possibilities of nationalization, reduction of trade with hostile nations and expansion with friendly ones.

In this context there are likely to be some searching questions from Arab radicals about the recent reported increase in Arab deposits in British banks.

The most important item of all is unlikely to appear on the agenda paper. This is the recognition of Israel's right to existence or a declaration of non-belligerence. Recent utterances by Shukairy and Syrian Ministers indicate that they would like to keep this taboo subject out of the talks.

PETER MANSFIELD

Sudanese leader brings Arabs together.
PETER MANSFIELD

The Times (London, England),Monday, Aug 28, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57031.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS101149980

Khartum pact on Yemen

KHARTUM, Aug. 30.—President Nasser and King Faisal of Saudi Arabia have reached agreement on the settlement of the Yemen problem, it was learned here tonight.

According to the text of the agreement, Egypt will withdraw her troops from the Yemen and Saudi Arabia will stop military aid to all Yemenis.

The two countries have invited Iraq, Morocco, and Sudan to form a committee to see that the agreement is executed properly.—*Agence France Presse.*

Frankness by Nasser, page 4.

Khartum pact on Yemen.
The Times (London, England),Thursday, Aug 31, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 57034.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS17788191

Nasser candour on Israel victory

Syria boycotts talks

From PETER MANSFIELD—Khartum, Aug. 30

President Nasser of Egypt is reported to have been very candid at this morning's session of the Arab summit conference in Khartum in admitting the mistakes made by himself and his Army commanders in the brief June war with Israel.

He gave an account of his conversations with Marshal Tito and his view of the Yugoslav President's suggestions for a political solution in the Middle East. He told the other Arab kings and presidents that the United Arab Republic was prepared to go to war again to recover lost Arab territories, provided the other Arab states were equally prepared to throw all their resources into the battle.

He was clearly referring to Arab oil wealth and the millions of pounds deposited in western, especially British, banks.

President Nasser and King Husain of Jordan today had luncheon together, and it may be assumed that their discussions concentrated on the political aspects of obtaining an Israel withdrawal from the west bank of Jordan and the Sinai Desert.

This evening, President Nasser had a private meeting with King Faisal of Saudi Arabia at the Khartum residence of Muhammad Ahmad Mahgub, the Sudan Prime Minister.

Two features

On this, the second day, of the Arab summit meeting in the Sudan capital, two important features of the conference have emerged. One is President Nasser's strong desire to obtain the approval of his fellow heads of states for the course of action he proposes, and the other is the Syrian regime's unconcealed dislike of the way things are going in the Arab world.

Before the conference opened, the semi-official Cairo newspaper *Al Ahram* said that Egypt was prepared to make every possible effort for the conference's success, and this has been confirmed by many other Egyptian sources.

At this morning's session at the republican palace, President Nasser spoke at some length.

President Bourguiba of Tunisia and King Hassan of Morocco have both sent polite messages of good will, regretting their inability to attend. President Podgorny of Russia and Mr. Kosygin, the Soviet Prime Minister, have also written to express their full support for the Arab efforts

It is the Syrian attitude, however, which, although not entirely unexpected, has been the subject of widest comment. Ibrahim Makhus, the Syrian Foreign Minister, who has been here since last week when he came for the Foreign Ministers' meeting, said yesterday that he had been in contact with Damascus by telephone, and expected to be delegated by President Atassi to attend the summit as his representative if the Syrian President himself was unable to come. In fact, he did not obtain this approval and Syria was the only one of 13 Arab states entirely unrepresented at last night's opening meeting.

This marks the Syrians off from their fellow radicals, the Algerians, for Colonel Boumédienne, while obviously unenthusiastic about the summit from the beginning, has wished to avoid the impression of an Algerian boycott by sending Abdulaziz Bouteflika, his Foreign Minister, to represent him. The Syrian delegation would now appear to have no alternative to withdrawing from Khartum.

Oil controversy

KHARTUM, Aug. 30.—Syria is boycotting the Arab summit conference here apparently because the three main Arab oil-exporting nations opposed continuation of an oil ban against the west, conference sources said tonight.



President Nasser is greeted at Khartum airport by Ismail al-Azhari, chairman of the Sudan Supreme Council.

The sources said that Ibrahim Makhus, the Syrian Foreign Minister, told some delegates that there was no purpose in the summit meeting because Saudi Arabia, Libya, and Kuwait now opposed the oil embargo on the ground that it was cutting vital revenues.

Dr. Makhus told reporters that he would go home tomorrow because the Arab Foreign Ministers who drew up the summit agenda had refused to endorse resolutions made by Arab finance and petroleum Ministers in Baghdad earlier this month.—*Reuter.*

Nasser candour on Israel victory.
From PETER MANSFIELD-

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Aug 31, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57034.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67333407

EGYPT ARMY TO LEAVE YEMEN

From PETER MANSFIELD—Khartum, Aug. 31

The United Arab Republic has agreed to evacuate its troops from Yemen within three months, which means that it should be leaving South Arabia just ahead of Britain. A transitional government is to be set up immediately in Sanaa, with Marshal Abdullah Sallal as a figurehead president without executive powers.

Between three and six months after the Egyptian evacuation there is to be a national plebiscite for the Yemen people to decide what type of government they want.

These are the teeth of the agreement between King Faisal of Saudi Arabia and President Nasser of Egypt to resolve the intransigent five-year-old Yemen problem, which was announced early this morning by Muhammad Mahgub, the Sudan Prime Minister.

Two features of the agreement are outstanding. One is that it leaves the responsibility for seeing that it is carried out to the governments of states other than Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Republic. Cairo's original proposal, made a month ago, for the formation of a three-man committee to supervise the agreement has been accepted by Saudi Arabia.

Egypt has chosen Iraq, and Saudi Arabia, Morocco. It was a foregone conclusion that Sudan would be the third member, agreed by both sides.

The Yemen republicans today showed strong resentment against the efforts to solve their country's problems over their heads. President Sallal issued a statement saying that the Yemenis rejected all interference in their internal affairs.

BEIRUT, Aug. 31.—Between 1,500 and 2,000 Russian artillery troops in Egyptian uniforms are fighting in Yemen against royalist guerrillas, Prince Hassan al-Husain, a royalist commander, said here today.—*New York Times News Service.*

Warning to Rhodesia on executions

Britain yesterday gave Rhodesia a warning that executions it planned to carry out "could be murder".

The Commonwealth Office issued this statement: "The British Government has seen, with great concern, reports that Mr. Lardner-Burke stated in Salisbury today, on behalf of the illegal regime, that they had decided to execute three people who had earlier been sentenced to death, and were reviewing further cases as the result of which more sentences might be carried out.

"Under the law of Rhodesia no death sentence can lawfully be carried out until it has been confirmed by the Governor, and that confirmation has been notified to the sheriff by the Attorney General of Southern Rhodesia.

"The carrying out of a death sentence without the confirmation and notification required by the law would itself be murder, imposing the heaviest personal responsibility on everybody who took part

Egypt Army To Leave Yemen.
From PETER MANSFIELD

The Times (London, England),Friday, Sep 01, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 57035.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS17919265



An Egyptian's report from Israel

By Waguih Ghali

Reports from the Arab summit meeting in Khartum suggest that President Nasser may be using his influence in favour of negotiating a political settlement with Israel. Waguih Ghali, an Egyptian writer who has just returned from Israel—the first Egyptian, it is believed, to be given official permission to visit the country since 1948—discussed with Arabs now in Israel or Israel-occupied territory what they thought their future was and how they assessed President Nasser's authority.

The most popular film in Israel just now is an Israeli documentary entitled *The Six Days War*. One has to fight a way through the crowds to buy a ticket. I managed to get a seat in a corner and sat imagining myself conspicuous and feeling rather sheepish at the thought of watching Israel's military glorification at the expense of my own countrymen. Sure enough, the famous eye-patch appeared and there was clapping and cheering. Some minutes later there was a tremendous roar and tumultuous clapping. Nasser had come on to the screen. Fighting broke out in the audience and I never saw the film. This in the very heart of Israel, in its capital.

During the next few days I interviewed three very different people. A high-ranking police officer, a charming Israeli Army general, and one of the exiled Arab notables. Among other things, I asked the same two questions of each of them. The first question was whether they were surprised at the cheering of Nasser in Israel (by Arabs, I hasten to add).

None was surprised. The police officer told me that he knew from the "security people" that Nasser's popularity had not diminished in the least, certainly not in the Arab villages of Israel in spite of talk of "donating their blood to the Israeli troops", and that in his opinion, although the reaction to the film was controllable in Israel, it would cause riots in Gaza.

Individuals in the Israeli Army are completely disarming by their candidness. From nearly all I have spoken to I get the impression they are very much above politics or propaganda. The Israeli general I spoke to told me that had he been Egyptian he would have been a Nasser man, and that if there had been no Nasser, he would have tried to be one himself.

PEACE FROM NASSER?

My second question was: "Don't you think that peace between you and us could only come through Nasser, and that the more Nasser established himself as leader of the Arab world, the more chances there would be for peace?" Both the police officer and the general thought that was the case, but they regretted the Egyptian radio broadcasts, Shukairy, the fedayeen, &c. "Although", the general admitted, "there has hardly been any penetration into Israel from Gaza in recent years."

I had great difficulty in contacting the exiled Arab and, paradoxically, we parted on very bad terms. I reached him through an old school friend, one of the Zananiris, a still powerful and rich family whether they are under Jordanian or Israeli rule. The notable was haughty but intelligent and faithful to his king. Being a genuine Hashemite, he personally disdained Nasser. Nevertheless, his conception of Israel tallied very much with what I had begun to sense.

"Of course", he said, "the riff-raff would applaud Nasser anywhere, even in the capital of Israel." To the second question, whether an understanding with Israel would eventually have to come through Nasser, he shook his head. "There will never be peace", he said. "No doubt Nasser wants peace with Israel—he only uses Israel to gather the Arab masses behind him for his own projects; but Israel does not want peace."

I told him that I had been impressed by the fact that nearly every Israeli I had talked to seemed genuinely to yearn for peace. He did not contradict this, but on the contrary supported it by saying that he had been treated with great courtesy by the officials, by the police to whom he had to report three times a day, and by representatives of the security police who visited him. He too felt that the people really wanted peace. "But", he continued, "the Zionist movement, which is very close to and controls the Israeli Government, has a blue-print of objectives in the Middle East and they do not want peace until all these objectives are reached."

This Zionist long-drawn blue-print of objectives in the Middle East is passionately believed in by every Arab intellectual with whom I have spoken, whether Jordanian or Israeli. When I remarked that if that is the case, then the Arabs are playing right into Israel's hands by giving them excuses to carry out this plan, I was always told that most of those "so-called" provocations have been carried out by Israelis themselves; and as an early example of this, I was told about the Zionists blowing up Synagogues in Iraq, many years ago, to frighten the Iraqi Jews into migrating to Israel. One very literate Arab swore Ahmad Shukairy (the Palestinian leader) is a Zionist agent. (I find this a most sensible belief.)

OUT OF TOUCH

The conception of Israel I shared with the exiled Arab notable, is that the Israeli Government's mood is completely divorced from that of the people and that it does not reflect the people's feeling in any way. Before reaching Israel, I naturally expected to see a lot of arrogance and elation among the population. I was moved and surprised to see that I had been wrong. The only arrogance I encountered came from English and American Jewish tourists living in expensive hotels, wooed by the government and disdained by the ordinary Israelis. What was even more remarkable was that when I confessed myself to be Egyptian to groups of Israelis their only reaction was to tell me that "Nasser has good intentions for the Egyptians, but that he is making mistakes". This view, as I have already mentioned, is typical of every non-government Israeli I have met, from taxi-drivers to generals in the army.

The contrast, when one speaks to government officials, or examines government policies, is striking, particularly since this is a democratic government. And, no matter how imaginary the "Middle East blue-print" is, it is very easy to believe in it.

The most unpleasant moments I spent in Israel were those when I attended meetings of some of the innumerable American Zionist organizations being addressed by government spokesmen and by ministers. Here, I felt, the speaker really said what he thought Biblical passages condoning everything Israel does and extending even the present borders, shouts of "Aliya" [the bridge between American Jews and Israel] and pleas to come and settle in the newly acquired territories of Israel This to an audience whose justification for settling in the Middle East is, to most Arabs, incomprehensible.

Once more from the Israeli side I talked to a university lecturer and chief adviser to the government on Arab affairs. "Nasser", he told me, "must concentrate on Egypt and not interfere in the affairs of other Arab states". He refused to acknowledge that Nasser has a right to care about the welfare of non-Egyptian Arabs, as much as Israeli Jews care about non-Israeli Jews. I felt that he, like other government spokesmen, believed in some Jewish divine right which is denied other people.

Gaza apart (where the population find even a temporary Israeli domination intolerable), there are three different Arab opinions about the future in what constitutes Israel at present: the Arabs who have lived in Israel for 20 years, the Old City Arabs, and the West Bank Arabs.

The Israeli Arabs, who have lived under martial law for 19 years, have been jostled from their fatalistic complacency by what they have just seen. They came into contact with prosperous Old City Arab merchants, and they are indignant at their own state. They had always been led to believe that under Israeli rule they enjoyed a very much higher standard of living to any other Arab. They also seem to be suddenly aware that they are not sharing in the Israeli standard of living (a standard of living dependent on foreign donations and unrelated to the country's productivity and earnings). Paradoxically, just when the Arabs have been devastatingly defeated, they are complaining bitterly about their fate, and they are now talking about the "struggle must go on" and cheering Nasser in the cinema—something they would not have dared to do a year ago. Passive up to now, they see the future as a militant struggle.

The Old City Arabs are very disunited in their opinions about the future. If they are prospering under the new rulers and are not worried by rumours (emanating from Amman) that their business is going to be "taken over" they remind you that they are in fact Palestinian and that Jordan was also an alien rule. If their business is declining they are naturally very anti-Israel. In general the Old City Arabs have not been separated from their families by this cleavage of Jordan and, indecisive about the future as they are, they seem likely to respond to whoever woos them best.

ENEMY WITHIN

The West Bank inhabitants do not contemplate permanent Israeli domination. The less passionate visualize a period of negotiation after which the Old City would be internationalized, with the West Bank reverting to Jordan. The more passionate see themselves as "fighting the enemy from within". All have families and relatives in Jordan and a permanent separation is unthinkable. But there is a third small but articulate and intelligent faction. It thinks in terms of an Arab Palestinian government, negotiating both with Jordan and Israel. The irony of the situation is that this faction is in Israel's bad books because originally it was against King Husain. (Early this year Mr. Eshkol's Government declared that if King Husain were toppled, Israeli troops would march into Jordan.)

On the other hand, if some weeks ago there was no clear pattern of behaviour by the Israel Government, now at least part of its plans is clear. Not only the Old City, but also the West Bank is going to be annexed to Israel, with only a token number of refugees allowed to return, and in no circumstances will this land ever return to Jordan. Plans for settling Jews in the Old City and in the West Bank are already under way, and the pleas and encouragements to Jews abroad to settle in Israel and to populate these territories confirm that the final decision has been taken.

An Egyptian's report from Israel.
Waguih Ghali

The Times (London, England),Friday, Sep 01, 1967; pg. 9; Issue 57035.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS152530209

Arabs to resume sales of oil

Profits will compensate Egypt and Jordan

The United States raised her crude oil exports in July to 70 times the monthly average to help nations deprived of Middle East oil, Reuter reports from Washington. Britain received 38 per cent of the July total, her receipts amounting to nearly 3,300,000 barrels.

From PETER MANSFIELD, Khartum, Sept. 1

The leading Arab oil-producing states have won their case to end the economic boycott of Britain and the United States but have paid a heavy price for it.

Twelve Arab kings and presidents announced here tonight their decision to allow the resumption of the flow of oil that has been cut off since the June war with Israel and to use the extra revenues to compensate the Arab states that have suffered—that is Jordan and the United Arab Republic.

Kuwait's proposal to establish an Arab Defence Fund has been adopted and Kuwait itself will contribute £55m. annually, Saudi Arabia £50m. and Libya £30m. These sums are to be paid until "the effects of aggression have been eliminated". Since it is reliably reported that Egypt will receive £95m. this will almost exactly compensate it for the loss of revenues through closure of the Suez Canal and it means that the U.A.R. will not be in any mood to consider reopening the canal until Israel withdraws from Sinai.

Foreign bases

Another decision at the end of the four-day Arab summit meeting expressed the determination of the heads of state to see all foreign military bases removed from Arab soil. But this is hardly a burning issue since Libya has already started negotiations for the removal of the British base at Tobruk and the United States Wheelus base near Tripoli.

The oil states, which are not in the front line with Israel, have always been open to the charge that they contribute nothing like their full potential for the Arab cause. Now this can no longer be said and in accepting their money Egypt is in effect giving a formal guarantee to refrain from stimulating the resentment of the Arab masses against them

The remaining resolutions of the Arab heads of state are in general terms. They say that they have agreed: to unify their ranks having settled their differences, to coordinate their economic and foreign policies, and strengthen their armed forces. As was expected, there are to be "no peace or negotiations with Israel and no question of recognition of the Israel state".

Nevertheless, there is little doubt that the Arab leaders have decisively rejected the idea of a second round with Israel.

Leading article, page 11; Business news, page 15.

Sovereigns missing at Mint

The Royal Mint yesterday mislaid 187 newly minted sovereigns, worth £5 to £6 each on the black market. About 20 workers in the department concerned were searched and the department was inspected by security men.

A senior employee at the Mint said: "The sovereigns were in a bag and the easiest way to dispose of them is to sling the bag over the 30ft. high wall. It happened before with 3d. pieces."

When the staff security men failed to find the coins, they called in detectives but still could not trace the money. A bullion dealer said: "These coins would be worth at least £2,000 to anyone who smuggled them to Pakistan or India."

Police said last night that it had not been positively established that the sovereigns were stolen. They might have been misplaced.

ON OTHER PAGES

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Arabs to resume sales of oil.
From PETER MANSFIELD

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Sep 02, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 57036.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS18312482

UN INVITATION ON ADEN CRISIS REFUSED

FROM JEROME CAMINADA

BEIRUT, SEPT. 1

The United Nations mission on South Arabia arrived in Beirut today still trying to find, like the end of the rainbow, an agreement on the territory.

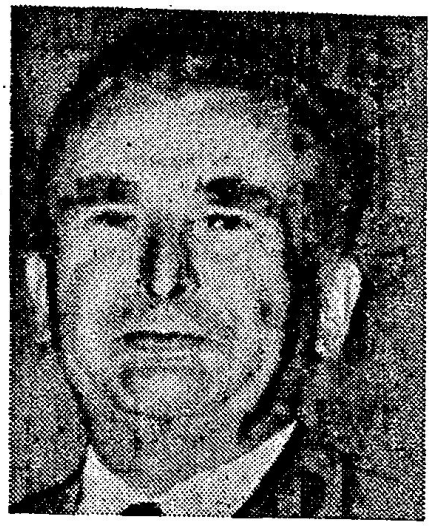
Its three members were met by the news that the National Liberation Front (N.L.F.), one of the two militant groups which they sought to meet here, had stated it would boycott them. No decision on whether the Front for the Liberation of Occupied South Yemen (Flosy) will come from Cairo is expected before tomorrow.

There was no definite news either of whether Britain intended to respond to the mission's invitation to be represented at any meetings here.

Two men who described themselves as N.L.F. "delegates" said at a press conference that the United Nations mission was "aligning itself with imperialism". The long-standing United Nations resolutions on Aden were the minimum of the people's basic demands and through popular struggle these rights would be won without conditions or bargaining. The N.L.F., however, was not seeking power.

Unusual interest

More than usual interest is being taken here in all of South Arabia because of Britain's resignation and the Arab summit conference which ended in Khartum today. Statements in London that Britain has already washed her hands of South Arabia sound so cynical to some that in Amman yesterday I was asked: "Is Britain going to wash her hands altogether of the Middle East outside of Israel?"



Mr. Sarajcic, Yugoslav Ambassador, who delivered President Tito's message to 10 Downing Street, after the President's Middle East visit.

Reports from Khartum today show that President Sallal of Yemen is so disgruntled over the Yemen agreement between President Nasser and King Faisal that he failed to attend a crucial general session held from about midnight until early today. He complains that he was not consulted and is suspicious of a referendum after a committee consisting of Sudan, Iraq and Morocco had tried to pave the way for agreement.

It was agreed last night that Egypt should get £95m. and Jordan £40m. to offset losses in the June war with Israel, the donors being Kuwait (£55m.), Saudi Arabia (£50m.), and Libya (£30m.). Syria was left out, partly at any rate, because she boycotted the conference.

Kuwait had previously given £15m. to Egypt, £10m. to Jordan and £5m. each to Iraq and Syria. This new decision, announced today, was a pointer to the final trend of the conference.

Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Libya were opposed to any oil embargoes and Saudi Arabia, according to a reliable report, said she could cut off oil exports only if the Arab states found themselves ready to resume war against Israel. Now it seems that instead of trying to harm Britain and the United States and thereby shut off their own revenue, these three Arab countries prefer to yield their oil proceeds for a short period to those who bore the brunt of the war. Iraq, who wanted a boycott of oil exports, stands aside and will evidently herself restore her losses in the fighting in Jordan for the purpose of these payments is to rebuild armed forces.

'Resistance the way'

President Nasser is reported as saying: "We have no other way but resistance which is the way of life", but he made it clear that he was speaking of the next 20 years if need be and not an immediate war. The first step was to become stronger militarily.

At this point, according to a reliable account here, President Nasser turned to King Husain and said: "How long can you endure the present situation?" Bluntly, the King replied: "Two months." King Husain is thought to have been pressing for "a quick diplomatic solution" of his position against Israel and this involved him last night in acid argument with Ahmad Shukairy, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Un Invitation On Aden Crisis Refused.
FROM JEROME CAMINADA

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Sep 02, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57036.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68381986



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THE ROAD FROM KHARTUM

The two main open results which have come out of the Khartum Arab summit invite a certain amount of scepticism. First, the three rich Arab countries—Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Libya—are to compensate the three war victims—Egypt, Jordan, and Syria—to the tune of £140m. Rich Arabs have been helping poor Arabs, out of obvious self-interest, for many years. But this is a very big amount, even if it is spread over some time, and the oil countries are hard up because exports have been deliberately cut down for political reasons. Ten years ago, when after Suez Jordan broke its treaty with Britain, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Syria agreed to contribute £12,500,000 annually to Jordan's Exchequer to replace British aid; but except for a bit from the Saudis this remained a paper gesture. The Arab world is still probably not ready for mutual self-help on such a large scale, and the real implication of this decision may be that oil-producing countries are now free to export again normally if they can.

The second decision involves winding up the civil war in Yemen. Here again precedents are bad. Egypt and Saudi Arabia have agreed before to end their aid to the two sides, but suspicions have proved too strong and the war and the aid have gone on. Admittedly the shock of the defeat by Israel has produced a new situation. Egypt simply cannot afford the cash cost of the Yemen expedition, however great may be the risks of bringing home more disgruntled troops from a second unsuccessful war. The whole of southern Arabia looks like starting a period of increased turbulence, in which rival bands will be seeking to consolidate themselves in as much of Yemen and the federation as they can. Will other interested Arab parties really be able to hold aloof from this power struggle? And what will become of Britain's defence commitments to the new state (if there is one) after withdrawal?

Both these decisions of the conference can be presented as a clearing of the decks so that the Arab governments can concentrate on the real matter which brought them to Khartum—what to do about Israel's military victory. So far only hints have been given as to what was debated there behind closed doors, let alone any course of action that was decided on. The violence with which the "revolutionary" Arab governments—Algeria and Syria—have insisted that never will they be party to any "liquidation of the Palestine problem" suggests that they think other governments are ready to do this. This may just be striking an attitude, as Iraq did in 1949 when it alone refused to sign an armistice with Israel. It seems premature to suppose that Egypt and Jordan have agreed a positive plan for a political settlement with Israel. All that has been suggested so far is a number of bargaining positions—that Israel must withdraw, that Jerusalem is Arab, and so on. This would be natural, whether or not Arab leaders were thinking in terms of serious bargaining. The true centres of activity are going to be in Washington and Moscow, and a little later at the United Nations.

The Khartum summit has not produced any genuine unanimity—the Arabs cannot speak, let alone negotiate, with one voice. But that was hardly to be expected. Their overt differences might have been a good deal worse, and there must surely have been hard thinking of which the rest of the world has still to hear.

The Road From Khartum.
The Times (London, England),Saturday, Sep 02, 1967; pg. 11; Issue 57036.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS184773922

Oil flows again but Suez Canal stays shut

By DAVID JONES

President Nasser can afford to keep the Suez Canal closed for several more months. This is the first result of the Khartum conference. British oil companies last night pointed out that the bulk of the increased costs incurred as a result of the Middle East war in June would still have to be met.

British Petroleum have been the hardest hit by the Suez Canal closure, which by the end of the year will have cost close on £100m. in extra freight and refinery costs. The company has had to ship supplies from Iran round the Cape.

Last night there was confusion among the oil companies, as reports from Cairo radio, and an ambiguous communiqué by Sudanese Prime Minister Mohammed Ahmed Mahgoub, spoke of the "resumption of production" by the Arab countries.

But the companies were agreed that if the Arab countries which cut off supplies to the three western nations alleged to have given support to Israel in the June war were to resume pumping oil, then this was welcome news. The closure of the canal was still the maior burden of their extra costs.

A spokesman for British Petroleum said last night that the resumption of supplies from the Arab countries could not make any immediate difference. The first move would probably be to restart shipments from Libya.

And the oil companies were agreed, too, that the attitude of Syria was a large question mark hanging over the resumption of supplies from the Middle East. Pipelines from Saudi Arabia and Iraq to the Mediterranean pass through Syria, and the Damascus Government, which has boycotted the Arab summit conference, could continue to ban oil movements.

Egypt seeks Italian loan extension

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

ROME, SEPT. 1

The Governor of The Central Bank of Egypt, Nazmi Abdelhamid, today lunched with Dr. Guido Carli, the Governor of the Bank of Italy, to discuss partial refinancing and rescheduling of Egypt's large debt to Italy.

Mr. Abdelhamid and a group of Egyptian banking experts will spend five days in Rome and two days in Milan meeting Italian bankers and industrialists, before going on to Paris to meet with French bankers.

Italy is one of Egypt's principal creditors, although no figures have been officially published, it is understood that the total of bank loans

Shipowners not surprised

Yesterday's agreement in Khartum under which Egypt is to receive £95m. aid, thus enabling the Suez Canal to remain closed for several more months, will only confirm the expectations of many shipowners.

It is likely that the continued closure of the Canal would lead to an increase in freight rates for dry cargo vessels but, if the oil embargoes are in fact lifted, tanker freights may begin to ease, even if the Canal remains sealed.

There has for some time been an assumption that the Canal would not be reopened for several months, but whereas the tanker freights seem to have taken full account of this, with two and three voyage charters being taken which will last until the end of the year, dry cargo freights do not appear to have fully reflected this prospect.

It seems unlikely that shippers can hold back indefinitely, and it may be that we shall see more cargo being offered, and the shipping lines coming into the market to charter extra tonnage. One forecast last night was that dry cargo rates might rise by 50 per cent by Christmas.

Oil flows again but Suez Canal stays shut.
By DAVID JONES

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Sep 02, 1967; pg. 15; Issue 57036.

Category: Business and Finance

Gale Document Number:CS252800290

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FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

ROME, SEPT. 1

The Governor of The Central Bank of Egypt, Nazmi Abdelhamid, today lunched with Dr. Guido Carli, the Governor of the Bank of Italy, to discuss partial refinancing and rescheduling of Egypt's large debt to Italy.

Mr. Abdelhamid and a group of Egyptian banking experts will spend five days in Rome and two days in Milan meeting Italian bankers and industrialists, before going on to Paris to meet with French bankers.

Italy is one of Egypt's principal creditors, although no figures have been officially published, it is understood that the total of bank loans and export credits owed by the Egyptians is almost $150m. Most of this sum is made up of loans made by a group of Italian banks, led by the Banca Commerciale Italiana and including the Banco Di Roma, the Banca Nazionale Del Laboro, the Instituto Mobiliare Italiano and Mediobanca—the country's principal banks.

Today's meeting was devoted to a review of Egypt's total position towards Italy. The Bank of Italy, although it can offer a general policy opinion to the creditor banks, will not make any final decison on refinancing. Mr. Abdelhamid will meet with the banks and Ministry of Treasury officials on an individual basis during the next several days.

It is understood that the Egyptians are not especially anxious to obtain large scale new financing, although this position may change. Instead it seems that they desire principally to consolidate their debt position and regain Italian confidence.

£ suffers further loss

BY OUR BANKING CORRESPONDENT

Following its sharp setback on Thursday, the pound lost a further 1-16c. against the dollar yesterday to close just below $2.78½. In two days a total loss of ¼c. has brought sterling back to where it was a week ago, before the successful Group of Ten meeting in London and the Government's mild reflationary package. Foreign exchange dealers believe that on the week the Bank of England has probably been a net buyer of dollars.

Monday's market may be affected by reports from Khartum that Arab states not involved in the war with Israel have agreed there to give £140m. aid to Egypt, Jordan, and Syria.

Both the Bank of England and the Treasury declined to comment on the possibility of some of the funds being paid by drawing on London balances. Half the aid, it is reported, will be paid immediately after the summit conference and the remainder within three months.

Certainly all of the gains made on Tuesday, when the Bank was busy purchasing dollars and the pound was rising strongly, will have gone into the August reserves which are to be published by the Treasury next Monday.

It is conceivable, too, that last Monday, when the London market was closed, the reserves could have benefited from any overseas central bank activity that may have been conducted on the Bank of England's behalf.

On Wednesday, too, the pound was still basking in the glow of the Group of Ten monetary agreement, but if normal Exchange Control practice is followed any gains made then will come into the September returns. There is nothing to stop the authorities, if they wished to put the best possible gloss on the August outturn, from including their dollar purchases on Wednesday in last month's reserves picture.

The pressure at the end of this week, estimated in the market to have cost the Bank at least £10m. on Thursday but less yesterday, will not affect next week's gold announcement, but dealers are nevertheless prepared for a published loss of up to £20m.

Egypt seeks Italian loan extension.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Sep 02, 1967; pg. 15; Issue 57036.

Category: Business and Finance

Gale Document Number:CS252931362

Israel decides to keep her wartime gains

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Tel Aviv, Sept. 3

In an official response to the resolutions of the Arab summit conference in Khartum, Israel tonight said in effect that she would meet intransigence with intransigence.

Officials in Jerusalem did not share the opinion of observers abroad who regarded the Arab resolutions as a victory for moderation.

They noted that the Arabs essentially reaffirmed the state of war against Israel, and the Government accordingly decided not to yield the wartime gains which had pushed the Arab armies beyond the Suez Canal, the River Jordan, and the Golan Heights, out of artillery range of the previously harassed Israel border settlements.

In a statement to the Cabinet today, Mr. Eshkol, the Prime Minister, noted that the Arab rulers had spurned Israel's offer of peace negotiations, and had proclaimed that they would not make peace with Israel, recognize the fact of her existence, or deal with her.

Mr. Eshkol said: "The stand by the heads of the Arab states has strengthened the resolve of the Israel Government not to allow a return to conditions that would permit her enemies to undermine her security, and attack her sovereignty and her very existence."

The Israelis regarded the Arab decision to resume oil sales to the west as recognition of an economic reality, not as a sign of moderation.

"Someone had to make up the economic losses", an official said today. "Someone had to subsidize Egypt and Jordan. Someone had to pay the bill. To do so they have to earn money. They have to sell oil to the west."

Gesture to refugees

In resuming oil sales and talking of political war without actually shooting, the Arabs were trying to return to the spirit of the Cairo and Casablanca summit meetings of 1964 and 1965, when it was resolved to prepare to destroy Israel but to defer a confrontation until they had secured sufficient military superiority, according to experts here.

The Arabs hope that if they conduct themselves in that way, some other power will pull their chestnuts out of the fire, the Israelis said.

The Cabinet decided today, as a humanitarian gesture, to allow the repatriation of 6,500 Arab refugees in the kingdom of Jordan who had received permits to return to the west bank but had not managed to do so.

Israel had authorized more than 20,000 refugees to return by August 31, but only 14,056 crossed the Jordan before the deadline

The Prime Minister and the Minister of the Interior have been empowered by the Cabinet to work out details for the return of the others within a limited period.

Long task for Jordan, page 8.

Europe

Paris, Sept. 3

For them, there is no real debate unless the fate of the Government is at stake. If General de Gaulle rejected a Presidential regime (on the American pattern) it is to avoid, in this difficult country, insoluble crises between Parliament and the President."

It was not easy to swim upstream Millions of men were determined to become neither American nor Russian and cultural interdependence was probably the best guarantee of those who wished to preserve their national personality. General de Gaulle was as convinced as he, M. Pompidou, that there was no solution to the problem unless the European continent succeeded in passing from "essence to existence".

Driving force

"He really thinks France should be the motor of Europe. Not the technical, administrative, or institutional motor, but the ideological one," the Prime Minister remarked. "I accept Europe as a goal, but it will not exist without the culture, the habits, the languages, the passions of Germany, of Italy, of France, etc.," he went on. "What we strived for is a confederation moved by a common spirit, a common will to build up a

Israel decides to keep her wartime gains.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT-

The Times (London, England),Monday, Sep 04, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57037.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67988772

Egypt offer on BOAC flights

CAIRO, Sept. 4.—A United Arab Republic official told the British Overseas Airways Corporation representative in Cairo today that the Government would have no objection to B.O.A.C. resuming its regular flights to Cairo—provided that United Arab Airlines resume its flights to London.

The Arab states, which broke diplomatic relations with Britain and the United States for alleged collusion with Israel during the June 5 war, barred commercial companies of both countries from landing or flying over their territorial air space.—*Associated Press.*

B.O.A.C. in London last night confirmed that the Egyptian offer had been made. But a spokesman told *The Times*: "Reciprocal arrangements would be for the two Governments to decide."

Egypt offer on BOAC flights.
The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Sep 05, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 57038.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS18050341

Artillery battle in Gulf of Suez

Worst clashes since July

The worst clashes along the Suez Canal since July ended last night with a cease-fire arranged by United Nations truce observers after a day of artillery battles between Egypt and Israel. Each side blamed the other for opening hostilities.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—TEL AVIV, SEPT. 4

Israel artillery sent an Egyptian motor torpedo boat to the bottom of the Gulf of Suez, near the southern entrance to the Suez Canal, Army headquarters announced here today. The sinking occurred towards the end of an all-day artillery duel during which the Egyptians reported one dead and three injured, and the Israelis reported one dead and one injured.

Today's battle was reported to have begun with an attack on two Israel naval vessels from Egyptian positions in an island south of Suez and from the mainland south of Port Ibrahim.

The Israelis said their boats had not entered the Canal and were attacked in the Gulf of Suez three kilometres from the southern entrance.

Israel batteries returned the fire and the exchange lasted an hour. There were further exchanges in the afternoon, and Army headquarters here said that each time it was the Egyptians who opened fire.

CAIRO, Sept. 4.—Egypt claimed that its Air Force drove off Israel aircraft over the Suez Canal and that its artillery caused heavy Israel casualties in two outbreaks of hostilities today.

Warning shots

A military bulletin said that Israel mortars and tanks resumed fire on Egyptian positions in the Suez sector this evening, breaking the fresh cease-fire. Israel fire, it said, approached the town of Suez causing civilian casualties.

An earlier statement said that hostilities began when an Israel armed launch, tug, and transport craft tried to enter the Canal from the Gulf of Suez. The three vessels ignored warning shots, so Egyptian artillery opened up, damaging the transport and driving off all three.

Reports from Suez indicated that two ships stranded in the blocked Canal were hit by fire. A Greek-registered vessel was said to be seriously damaged with its foredeck awash. The other ship, bearing tea from India, received lesser damage. —*Agence France Presse* and *Associated Press.*

Israel seeks 'peace with honour'

From DAVID SPANIER

JERUSALEM, SEPT. 4

Peace with honour could be achieved in the Middle East for Egypt and the other Arab nations, but the Arab leaders were still refusing to draw the lessons from the recent war, Mr. Yigal Allon, Israel Minister of Labour, said tonight. As a result, Israel was compelled to be extremely stubborn in her own defence.

Mr. Allon said that his "old friend" President Nasser—he captured him during the war of 1948—had said in Khartum that there were two choices before the Arab countries, surrender or resistance, and that he preferred to resist, because this represented the spirit of Arab nationalism.

"I think he is utterly wrong", said Mr. Allon, who is one of the most influential voices in the Government, at a press conference. "These are not the only alternatives. Peace is not surrender. Direct negotiation between us and any Arab government, including Egypt, may lead to a solution of peace with honour."

President Nasser, as an experienced statesman, should know that Israel did not seek the war, in spite of its favourable results, said Mr. Allon. Israel did its best to avert it.

In the face of continuing Arab threats, however, they could not be surprised if Israel took defensive measures, where necessary. "Time is not on their side", Mr. Allon said, "and I cannot see their point here. Israel's own system of defence may entail unpleasant facts for them, which may be difficult to alter in the future." The sooner the Arab leaders negotiated, without preconditions, the better it would be.

Amer arrested

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

CAIRO, SEPT. 4

Field Marshal Abdul Hakim Amer, former First Vice-president and Deputy Supreme Commander of the Egyptian Armed Forces, and Shamsuddin Badran, former War Minister, have been arrested on charges of attempting to stage a military "adventure" on August 27.

Artillery battle in Gulf of Suez.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Sep 05, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57038.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67464485

Israel seeks 'peace with honour'

From DAVID SPANIER

JERUSALEM, SEPT. 4

Peace with honour could be achieved in the Middle East for Egypt and the other Arab nations, but the Arab leaders were still refusing to draw the lessons from the recent war, Mr. Yigal Allon, Israel Minister of Labour, said tonight. As a result, Israel was compelled to be extremely stubborn in her own defence.

Mr. Allon said that his "old friend" President Nasser—he captured him during the war of 1948—had said in Khartum that there were two choices before the Arab countries, surrender or resistance, and that he preferred to resist, because this represented the spirit of Arab nationalism.

"I think he is utterly wrong", said Mr. Allon, who is one of the most influential voices in the Government, at a press conference. "These are not the only alternatives. Peace is not surrender. Direct negotiation between us and any Arab government, including Egypt, may lead to a solution of peace with honour."

President Nasser, as an experienced statesman, should know that Israel did not seek the war, in spite of its favourable results, said Mr. Allon. Israel did its best to avert it.

In the face of continuing Arab threats, however, they could not be surprised if Israel took defensive measures, where necessary. "Time is not on their side", Mr. Allon said, "and I cannot see their point here. Israel's own system of defence may entail unpleasant facts for them, which may be difficult to alter in the future." The sooner the Arab leaders negotiated, without preconditions, the better it would be.

Israel seeks 'peace with honour'.
From DAVID SPANIER

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Sep 05, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57038.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67595557

THE FACES IN THE STRUGGLE FOR SOUTH ARABIA



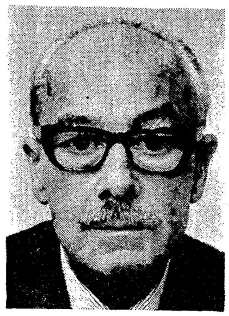
QAHTAN ASHAABI: secret leader of N.L.F.



ABDUL QAWEE MACKAWEE: now sits in Yemen hills.



ABDULLAH AL - ASNAG: tipped as Flosy "prime minister".



SIR R. TURNBULL: declared N.L.F. a terrorist organization.



SIR K. TREVASKIS: escaped assassin's grenade.

Sultans' rule opposed by gun and bomb

By MICHAEL WOLFERS

The way the South Arabian wheel has been turning is perhaps most expressively shown in the fate of Abdul Qawee Mackawee. Mackawee, a businessman who came into politics through the Aden Legislative Council, opposed Aden's merger with the South Arabian Federation because he objected to Britain's obvious support for the federal rulers.

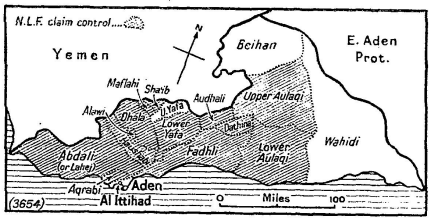
After a period in which nationalist representatives came close to ignoring the British, South Arabian, and Aden Governments, Mackawee was called out of the Aden opposition to become in March, 1965, Chief Minister of Aden State.

He made it abundantly clear that he was against colonialism, and quickly demanded that Britain fulfil a United Nations resolution for the removal of the British base in Aden and for the right of self-determination for the people of South Arabia.

Mackawee in office continued to wage a campaign for this objective. He banned entry to Aden of a British constitutional commission. He went to Alexandria for talks with Aly Sabry, Prime Minister of the United Arab Republic. The British Government's patience ran out when Sir Arthur Charles, the British Speaker of the Aden Legislative Council, was shot dead by gunmen in the Crater district.

The council's members paid tribute to Sir Arthur but did not condemn his killers. In September, 1965, Britain suspended the Aden Constitution and dismissed Mackawee. Mackawee flew to Cairo to join a South Arabian delegation to go to the United Nations.

With direct British rule in Aden, and the nationalist case without political outlet, Mackawee went over to the Front for the Liberation of Occupied South Yemen (Flosy), whose secretary-general he became. Self-exiled from Aden, he stayed close to the Egyptians in Cairo or in Yemen.



Mackawee had in effect deserted the political platform for persuasion by gun and bomb. The full horror of what this can mean must have come home to him in February this year when three of his own sons were killed in a bomb attack on his old Aden home, the youngest of them being only nine years old. Mackawee himself was in Taiz, one of the Yemen twin capitals, where he was becoming recognized among his own supporters as the probable "president" of a nationalist government.

Meanwhile, however, the nationalist movement was itself split, and while Mackawee waited for the call back to power a rival organization was making progress on South Arabian ground and without the ties with Egypt which had made Flosy a suspect liberating force. Now Mackawee sits in the Yemen hills with other nationalists preempting his claim to lead.

The rival organization is the National Liberation Front (N.L.F.), whose rapid advance was unforeseen by Flosy, the federal rulers, or British officials. The N.L.F. was a breakaway group from Flosy, but the latter never really acknowledged that there had been a split and by refusing to deal with the N.L.F., left the way open for its rival to operate without the doubtful advantage of being tied to Egyptian aid.

The history of nationalism in South Arabia is obscured by conflicting explanations from political factions and by the fact that banning by the British colonial administration drove most of the activists underground. Those who did not go to Egypt or Yemen stayed in hiding in South Arabia, but, as events of the past days have shown—and the toll of soldiers and civilians killed—were able to continue their work. Arrests were made but, with the ordinary people unwilling or afraid to help the British authorities, it proved impossible to prevent terrorism, which is only now being made obsolete by the nationalists' accession to political dominance.

South Arabia had a troubled history of subversion before the federation was formed, but the post-federation run of violent action began in December, 1963, when a grenade attack was made at Aden civil airport on Sir Kennedy Trevaskis, who was then the High Commissioner. Sir Kennedy escaped, but his assistant and an Arab were killed.

A state of emergency was declared, but intensive terrorist activity began a year later with a hand grenade thrown into a teenagers' party at R.A.F. Khormaksar, killing an English girl and wounding, among others, the Commander-in-Chief's son.

In 1964, when political opposition in Aden was still possible, the People's Socialist Party was led by Abdullah al-Asnag, who was also general secretary of the Aden Trades Union Congress. Asnag came to London during the 1964 constitutional conference on South Arabia to protest against a federation in the hand of "feudal lords". He was not a participant in the conference. Just over a year later he announced that he was giving up political activity in South Arabia and was moving to Yemen.

Asnag went to Taiz to confer with the Organization for the Liberation of the Occupied South (Olos), but within three months was flying to Cairo for discussions with leaders of the United Arab Republic. Asnag, who had been imprisoned for activities directed against Aden's merger with the federation, later became a Flosy leader and was tipped as "prime minister" for the government in exile.

Shortly before he was dismissed as Chief Minister of Aden, Mackawee had asked that Flosy should be recognized in Aden as a political party and be asked to join in negotiations with Britain over South Arabia's future. Olos was merged with Flosy in January, 1966, by which time nearly all the known anti-British militants were outside South Arabian borders.

Parallel with these developments runs the chequered history of the N.L.F., much of which is still open to conjecture and will remain confused until the nationalist struggle is written into the official histories. The formation of N.L.F. became known in the summer of 1963, in Sanaa, the other twin capital of Yemen, and it was thought in its early days to have Egyptian support. It was also blamed for the troubles in 1964 in the up-country Radfan region of South Arabia.

In June, 1965, Sir Richard Turnbull, soon after succeeding Sir Kennedy Trevaskis as High Commissioner, declared the N.L.F. to be a terrorist organization under Aden's emergency regulations.

With the political changes in Aden and the dispersal of opposition leaders, Egyptian support switched to Flosy, and by 1966 Mackawee and Asnag were already claiming that Flosy was the only truly representative body for South Arabian nationalism. The N.L.F. remained in Aden under the secret leadership of Qahtan Ashaabi, who, though he also has spent some time with the Egyptians, appeared at a press conference during the weekend on South Arabian soil.

Ashaabi's movements, which until now have received little public attention, reflect the phase in which the N.L.F. and Flosy were linked for a while last year, though it is difficult to judge how effective the links were at a time when communication with followers was poor and necessarily secret.

Last December the N.L.F. broke away and formed its own 14-man executive, and Flosy, whose targets in Aden had been British troops and British supporters, became involved in a further running battle with N.L.F. supporters for the prize of leadership of the South Arabian Federation after independence.

Official estimates in Aden were that Flosy men were being killed at something like three times the rate of N.L.F. men and periodic attempts were made by the nationalists to establish a truce. Flosy and the N.L.F. were competing for primacy in the revolutionary struggle, and Flosy's position was weakened by its refusal to recognize the other body's existence. When asked to talk with the British, Flosy refused unless it was first acknowledged that it was the sole nationalist representative. Britain could not accept the precondition.

Mouse of a strike by teachers

FROM BRIAN MACARTHUR,
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

BLACKBURN, SEPT. 4

So little impact was made on the 67 schools here today when members of the National Union of Teachers imposed sanctions on school meals duties in protest at the unsatisfactory salary settlement that it was difficult to see what the fuss was all about.

Somehow it was a mouse of a strike; and if Blackburn is anything to go by, student power and even perhaps flower power are much more potent weapons than teacher power.

The N.U.T., in common with other predominantly middle-class white collar unions, is sitting uncomfortably—and one suspects, with some embarrassment—on the horns of a familiar dilemma. It wants to make

On the showing today it will hurt neither the Government nor the local authority, and it did not hurt most of the children. Some of them in primary schools, indeed, had extra time for teaching, because the dinner money did not have to be collected by the teacher. Some of the children in secondary schools, however, are losing up to 25 minutes teaching time a day

On a normal day in Blackburn 6,000 of the 9,000 pupils in the 55 primary schools eat a school meal. Today, sanctions day, 6,000 of the 9,000 sat down to luncheon. The only difference was that members of the N.U.T. did not collect dinner money, which will be collected by a school clerk; and at many schools there were no teachers in the dining room or in the school at all during the luncheon hour.

Again, on a normal day, about 2,400 of the 3,000 secondary school was working was given when Councillor T. Taylor, chairman of Blackburn Education Committee, and Mr. J. Dorkins, the chief education officer, visited two junior schools at midday.

At one school four of the 10 teachers are N.U.T. members. Three went home for luncheon, and one ate sandwiches in the staff room. One sitting of the meal was watched over by supervisory assistants in the absence of N.U.T. members who would normally have done the job. The second sitting was supervised as usual by two members of the National Association of Schoolmasters.

At the second school all the staff are members of the N.U.T. and operated the sanction. But all the children who usually eat a school meal had a luncheon, which was supervised by ancillary assistants.

At a press conference tonight Councillor Taylor said that so far the authority was "very happy" with the

The Faces In The Struggle For South Arabia.
By MICHAEL WOLFERS

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Sep 05, 1967; pg. 8; Issue 57038.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS134442277

THE TIMES DIARY

Nasser's impulsive henchman
GPO sample phone calls
Songbirds off the menu

FIELD MARSHAL ABDUL HAKIM AMER, the former Egyptian supreme commander who is under house arrest in Cairo, is a very different kind of a man from President Nasser, whose number two and close confidant he was for more than 15 years. Outwardly good-humoured, he is impulsive and unpredictable and seldom calculating.

Amer, who is 48, was one of the "Free Officers"—the group led by Nasser and former President Neguib, who overthrew King Farouk in 1952. Always a military man, he first met Nasser in the 1930s when both were students at Egypt's Royal Military Academy. After that they became firm friends.

In the early days of his leadership Nasser leaned heavily on Amer's friendship, consulting him on political as well as military matters. He rose steadily to a position of prominence, and in 1959 was sent to Syria as governor after the formation of the United Arab Republic, the short-lived union between Egypt and Syria. But it was not until 1964, after the assassination of President Kennedy, that Nasser appointed Amer his vice-president.

An old friend's visit

Tall and slim, he has something of a boyish manner, seen most clearly when he plays the role of social raconteur and back-slapper. He is better known as a tough leader, executing Nasser's rigid policies in the formative years of the regime.

On the battlefield he has had little success, waging the unpopular and costly war in the Yemen and as C.-in-C. in the recent Middle East war which brought humiliating defeat for the Egyptians, and his eventual downfall. It is a measure of the Army's loss of face and unpopularity after the six days' war that officers were unable to walk in the streets of Cairo in uniform lest they face abuse and derision.

Since he was sacked, Amer has withdrawn from public life and has remained in self-exile in his home in Nile Street, Cairo. Among the old friends who have visited him from time to time—Nasser himself. But may one surmise that the friendship has lost much of its old savour?



Abdul Hakim Amer.

NO name has yet been announced for the new television company being formed by the merger between ABC and Rediffusion. One disenchanted suggestion current in Television House is Abusion.

Keeping in touch with town

WITH the state of Britain's telephone system set fair to overtake the weather as No. 1 National Grumble, it is pleasant to put aside the brickbats briefly and dwell on a near-magical device which within weeks will be helping to keep the stockbroker belt telephonically in contact with Town. Called Pulse Code Modulation—or P.C.M. for short—it enables hard-pressed G.P.O. engineers to put no fewer than *six* quarts in each pint pot.

Taking two ordinary telephone circuits, no matter how old, P.C.M. can cram 24 phone conversations into them by sampling each in turn very very rapidly—at 8,000 times a second. But when the first of these circuits comes into operation at Sunbury next month, callers will not be aware that only one-twenty-fourth of their conversation is being transmitted. "I thought I could tell the difference", says a senior London Telecommunications Region engineer. "but I've been fooled by it too."

Redhill, Caterham, Esher, Weybridge, Ashford (Middlesex), Walton and Staines are among the other exchanges in the southern suburbs to whose rescue P.C.M. is coming; while Uxbridge and Watford will each gain an extra 288 lines to London without the laying of a single additional cable. Potters Bar will also benefit; and in 1968 P.C.M. will come to the rescue of the Manchester conurbation and the Midlands.

The principle of P.C.M. was discovered in 1938 by a British telephone engineer, Mr. A. H. Reeve, now with Standard Telephones and Cables; but its practical application had to wait until the advent of the transistor. It is particularly valuable where laying additional cables involves the digging up of city streets. Conversion to P.C.M. requires only work at the exchange and the insertion of a small "booster" unit every 2,000 yards.

AN OFFICIAL of Scandinavian Airlines System, just back from China, reports that Chinese airlines have started their own form of in-flight entertainment. Not for them decadent western notions such as films and piped music to wile away the hours aloft. "Hostesses sing revolutionary-type songs, and even dance in the aisles", he says.

Ending bird slaughter

BIRD-LOVERS all over the world are celebrating a remarkable victory this week. The Italian Government has just approved a law forbidding the annual mass slaughter of hundreds of thousands of small birds.

Each spring as myriad robins, chaffinches, warblers, wagtails, thrushes and the like migrate from north



Wild birds and polenta as advertised at a restaurant in Italy.

Africa through Italy into central and northern Europe, Italians have used every means possible, from plain shooting to elaborate traps, to capture them.

The corpses, plucked and drawn, are cooked over charcoal or roasted on a spit and served up, usually on wooden skewers, as a great delicacy. As many as 500 songbirds are sometimes impaled on a single spit. Alternatively, birds can be bought "hung up like rows of carrots", as one British bird-lover put it.

In one part of northern Italy a special feast is held for the first three days of the hunting season and in a town near by more than 100,000 small birds are eaten during the celebrations.

The new law, to operate from the spring of 1969, is a triumph for Professor Alessandro Ghigi, now in his ninety-third year, who heads the Italian section of the International Council for Bird Preservation, which operates in 58 countries.

"The battle to get the new law approved by the Italian Government has been going on for nearly a century", says Miss Phyllis Barclay-Smith, secretary of the International Council. "It is particularly gratifying that Professor Ghigi has stayed the course and won."

Our man in Wall Street

IN the 1920s *The Times* liked its Correspondents to be familiar with history, archaeology, the classics and the higher reaches of diplomatic society in whichever capital they happened to be established. Claud Cockburn wrote in his autobiography *In Time of Trouble* (now republished by Penguin as part of *I, Claud*).

The idea that in Louis Hinrichs, the former New York Correspondent of *The Times* who has died, they had one, says Cockburn, who really understood Wall Street "and positively regarded Wall Street and its problems as essential in the affairs of the world, was to *The Times* awe-inspiring. Hinrichs, in fact, was to them a Man from Mars".

Laws not suspended

In the atmosphere of the great boom which preceded the Wall Street crash of 1929, Cockburn, Hinrichs's assistant in New York, recalls that his chief remarked to him: "I really don't believe it." Hinrichs explained what he felt about the "bull" market "and why he believed not only that it would not continue, but that it was a possibly monstrous delusion which could do serious harm to 'my dear America'".

"He knew the form book and he went by it. He could see nothing in the history of American development to suggest that, on behalf of the American Joshua of 1929, the Lord God was going to suspend the laws of economics."

Hinrichs was warmhearted, generous and sympathetic towards all individual miseries—"a sensitive being who was incapable, if he did not actually dislike anyone, of not positively liking and cherishing them".

Your very own Scotch

SOME 50,000 gallons of Scotch come under the hammer in Glasgow next week in the first auction sale of in-bond malt and grain Scotch whiskies for over 30 years. "We'll have whiskies of all types and ages", says the organizer, Mr. Ernie Epps.

Epps, 46, now consultant to the Universal Whisky Mart, dreamt up the idea of monthly auctions of Scotch to put blenders into direct touch with holders of whisky stocks. "At the moment whisky can go from broker to broker. The sales will mean that the blender will be paying the true value of the whisky.

"A lot of financiers have invested in Scotch, many of them overseas. We hope that the prices paid monthly will become a guide for them and the trade generally."

Personal supply

The sales are intended solely for the trade. But anyone could in fact lay in his own personal supply. A hogshead (55 proof gallons) of a good four-year-old malt whisky would cost about £110. "With duty (£16 a proof gallon) that would come to about £990. You'd have to water it down to domestic strength, so it would finally work out at a rate of about £25 for 12 bottles. Mind you, you'd have to pay for the bottles."

What makes the whole scheme well-nigh irresistible is that the whisky would be bottled under one's own label. I am very much taken with the idea of a choice malt whisky called simply . . .

PHS

The Times Diary.
PHS

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Sep 05, 1967; pg. 8; Issue 57038.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS134966565

TIMES PAST

THE TIMES

PRINTING HOUSE SQUARE, LONDON, E.C.4. TELEPHONE: 01-236 2000

NEW RULERS FOR ADEN

What is happening in south Arabia is much more like occupied Europe at the end of the war than the usual scene when colonial rule gives way to independence. Instead of the ceremonial lowering and raising of flags we are watching the total disintegration of the Government which Britain had named as its heir and the assumption of power by a movement that still bears the official label "terrorist". The authorities in Aden face the same problem that so many allied commanders met in 1944 and 1945, when groups of armed men met the advancing forces, and firmly insisted that they and they alone expressed the will of the people and had the authority to guarantee order.

These allied commanders may often have been sceptical about the way in which this or that "liberation committee" had got where it was, and still more had doubts about what it would do if it was left to boss the town or province it claimed to represent. But in nine cases out of ten there was no alternative—the commanders had to work with the men on the spot who came forward. Only so could essential services be maintained. The same cold logic will have to apply for the British in south Arabia. The National Liberation Front claims to control virtually the whole of the federation area except for Aden town. Britain has no means of disputing this claim. The only members of the old federal Government left in position admit defeat.

Two things seem to have contributed to the N.L.F.'s rapid rise and emergence into the open. The first was the mutiny in the federal Army, which removed the main prop of the new state Britain was trying to build. The second was the prospect of Egypt's withdrawal from Yemen. Flosy, the rival nationalist movement, was linked with Egypt and suffered from Egypt's eclipse. When Egypt's Yemeni protégé, ABDULLAH SALLAL, was left last week disconsolate in Khartum there was no point in anyone taking over his role in south Arabia. Other things being equal, a locally based movement always scores over one backed from outside.

Britain now faces some extremely delicate negotiating. On the face of it there is now an indigenous body to whom power could be handed over. But it is not the comprehensive administration Britain was talking about, and SIR HUMPHREY TREVELYAN will have to decide whether there is any chance of getting the N.L.F. command enlarged to make it more representative. Britain has useful bargaining points. The Army and R.A.F. are still in Aden, and no administration in south Arabia will count for much unless it controls Aden—and an Aden which is functioning again economically. There is also the question of the aid the new state is going to get after independence.

Britain may now be able to leave south Arabia without fighting the rearguard battle that looked inevitable a week or two ago. In the process a good many words will have to be eaten. There will be no glory and not much credit, but at this stage such an outcome looks better than chaos.

New Rulers For Aden.
The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Sep 05, 1967; pg. 9; Issue 57038.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS151219493

Libya lifts oil ban —Arab embargo is on the way out

By JOE ROEBER

The Libyan Government yesterday lifted its ban on the export of oil to Britain, the United States and west Germany—alleged to have been "aggressor states" in the Arab-Israel war.

With the Saudi Arabia and Kuwait governments having lifted their bans over the weekend this leaves only Algeria and Iraq of the main Arab oil producers doubtful about the change in policy. Yesterday Algeria (not a major exporter to the banned countries anyway) said it had made no decision yet. And Iraq's Oil Minister told the local oil company verbally that his Government's ban would be lifted, promising confirmation today. It is thought unlikely that Syria, through which much of Iraq's oil passes, will object.

The Arab oil ban is therefore virtually over, and with it the ban on tankers registered in the proscribed countries. However, the Suez Canal remains shut, its closure financed by the £95m. aid paid to Egypt by Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. Thus the main addition to oil company costs—of which the effect on Britain's balance of payments is analysed below—remains. And it will almost certainly continue until the Israel problem has been solved to the Arabs' satisfaction.

For the agreements of last week's Khartum conference arise, it seems, from two major policy decisions: to drop the Libyan programme of economic war against the West, pinned on a total embargo of oil exports, and to, if anything, intensify the campaign against Israel. The pragmatists (Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and, latterly, Libya) argued that the damage to the Arab countries from attempting to pressure the West was greater than could be endured. Far easier to apply pressure to Israel directly, financed by the revenues—flowing once again—of the oil companies. In any case it is anyone's guess how long countries like Egypt and Iraq, already running on perilously low reserves, could have lasted.

This relaxation must now remove the last shadow of rationing, or even of shortage, from Britain's fuel supplies in the coming winter.

But it carries no guarantees for the future for the oil companies. They can expect a resumption of traditional pressures designed to increase the oil incomes of their host governments.

It is not yet known how much money the Arab governments have lost through the ban. But it is an odds-on bet that they will do their best to recover it from the oil companies. A war levy has been suggested—a straight tax on oil produced—but this is unlikely to find favour against the more traditional methods of oil bargaining, which can yield as much without raising awkward legal problems.

Libya lifts oil ban-Arab embargo is on the way out.
By JOE ROEBER

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Sep 05, 1967; pg. 20; Issue 57038.

Category: Business and Finance

Gale Document Number:CS336031013

Big obstacles still for Britain

By RICHARD CASEMENT

The Arab oil agreement reached in Khartum on Friday may save £25m. for Britain's trade balance. But the decision of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Libya to pay aid to Egypt and Jordan at an annual rate of £135m. could seriously affect the reserves if the money comes out of the sterling balances.

Last night a spokesman for the Saudi Arabian embassy said he did not know yet whether the aid would be paid for with sterling balances. "We have not even officially got the final communiqué", he said. He added that Saudi Arabia's main assets are in dollars, though Kuwait's are in sterling.

The resumption of oil sales to the United Kingdom may save £10m., or more in British imports and there could be a similar improvement in exports. But the oil companies will still have to pay high freight charges and many of the assumptions on which the National Institute forecast a loss of £100m. to the British balance of payments up to June, 1968, remain unaltered.

A British Petroleum spokesman said yesterday the effect on costs of the Khartum agreement was so small it was not worth quantifying.

The closure of the Suez Canal, which may be lengthened as a result of the Khartum agreement, is the main cause of the expected loss to Britain's balance of payments. The National Institute estimated extra shipping costs at £75m., though the export earnings of British shippers were in turn expected to increase by £30m.

Some saving in imports will be achieved by those companies which are at present importing high cost oil from the United States and Venezuela. However, the National Institute estimated the cost of higher oil prices, leaving out freight charges, at only £22m., and £10m. of this was for the third quarter of 1967, now almost over.

One point to Britain's advantage is that, in so far as she switches back to Arab supplies from purchasing United States and Venezuelan oil, she will be able to pay in sterling rather than dollars.

Another important factor is whether the Arab countries will now lift the boycott on the purchase of British goods. If British goods will now be allowed to enter Arab countries freely, there could be an improvement in exports at least as big as the saving in imports.

The National Institute put the cost of lost exports at £30m. up to next June, and £50m. up to the end of 1968. However, this assumed the boycott had been applied effectively and it does not appear to have been adhered to at all rigidly.

The British Bank of the Middle East said yesterday: "We have not been terribly aware of the boycott. It has been more talk than fact."

Workless winter in west Germany

NUREMBERG, Sept. 4.—West Germany may again have some 700,000 unemployed this coming winter, the president of the Central Labour Office, Anton Sabel, warned today. He said the total of unemployed dropped 4.7 per cent last month to 359,473. But he also said: "We had expected a somewhat greater fall."

He added: "We are thus going into winter in a rather bad situation." However, the position would be mastered and would be better next spring than earlier this year.—*Reuter.*

Big obstacles still for Britain.
By RICHARD CASEMENT

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Sep 05, 1967; pg. 20; Issue 57038.

Category: Business and Finance

Gale Document Number:CS336162085

Intelligence chief ousted in Egypt

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

CAIRO, SEPT. 5

Salah Nasr, the director of Egypt's intelligence service, has been pensioned off. The authoritative Cairo newspaper *Al Ahram*, reporting this today, said extensive investigations have revealed that the country's intelligence service had on several occasions deviated from its original duties.

Yesterday the newspaper reported that Field Marshal Abdul Hakim Amer, the former First Vice-President and deputy supreme commander of the Armed Forces, had been put under house arrest, and Shamsuddin Badran, former War Minister, and 50 Army officers and civilians had been detained on charges of attempting to return to their jobs by force.

Our Moscow Correspondent writes:—Mr. Mahmoud Riad, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, has begun talks in Moscow with Mr. Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister. The discussion was described by Tass as "warm and friendly".

Intelligence chief ousted in Egypt.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Sep 06, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57039.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67726630

UNIONS CLASH OVER SOCIAL SECURITY

Selectivity in paying benefits is rejected

FROM STAFF REPORTERS—Brighton, Sept 5.

A motion objecting to selectivity as a basis for the payment of benefits was approved by the Trades Union Congress here today, in spite of a statement by Lord Collison that the general council wanted selectivity operating through income tax.

Lord Collison (National Union of Agricultural Workers) affirmed that the council was opposed to means-tested cash benefits. They wanted a general increase in family allowances, paid for by adjustments in income tax levels and without means-testing; they would continue to work for a firm foundation for universal social security provision.

Given such a foundation, and given a policy of active social research to identify needs, they believed that this activity would have an important part to play in the development of social security.

Lord Collison, who was introducing the section of the general council's report dealing with social insurance and industrial welfare, began by recalling that reported accidents in factories had increased in recent years and were still increasing.

Gaps in knowledge

There were clearly serious gaps in their knowledge in many aspects of accident prevention. They welcomed the new industrial safety advisory council set up under the chairmanship of the Minister of Labour this year, and expected it to make a real impact in accident prevention.

He then turned to means-testing. The issue was not clear cut, he said. But any attempt to introduce a means test into social security cash benefits would be completely unacceptable to the trade union movement (applause).

He recalled statements of Government policy from Miss Margaret Herbison, former Minister of Social Security, and from the new Minister. The stand of the trade union movement in opposition to means-testing, he continued, was not based on doctrinaire thinking or memories of the callous indignities of the thirties—it was based on a realistic assessment of how best to make proper provision for the great majority of retirement pensioners. The General Council were convinced that the argument against a means test in national insurance pensions was conclusive, and that improvements in non-contributory benefits were only acceptable as a short-term solution to meet an immediate problem.

Social security covered a wider field than this, he continued. Family allowances were also part of the problem. The General Council accepted fully that the problem of earnings which were insufficient to meet family needs could not be tackled by family allowances alone, and that they must be considered in the wider context of incomes policy.

Case for selection

"I see no likelihood whatever that any Government could provide money needed to increase the income of low-income families to an acceptable level if the income of every other family, regardless of need, has to be increased by the same amount", he said. "There is thus a strong case for selective increases which will concentrate available resources where they are needed."

The General Council had asked for a general increase in family allowances, with a corresponding reduction in income tax allowances. Better-off families would be no worse off, but all families below the standard rate, on their proposals, would gain on balance. They were therefore asking for selectivity here, but selectivity operating through the income tax system and not through a means test applied to family allowances.

Lord Collison was applauded as he sat down.

Congress then considered a motion in the name of the **Constructional Engineering Union**, calling on the general council when dealing with social security and national insurance work to oppose any attempt to introduce selectivity as a basis for the payment of benefits. "In this connexion", the motion continued, "congress, in keeping with the policy of the movement, reaffirms that such benefits shall continue to be treated on a universal basis."

Mr. E. Patterson, Constructional Engineering Union, who moved this motion, said Lord Collison seemed to have largely accepted the ideas contained in it. The motion had been successful already in securing from the general council a statement that the council were utterly opposed to means-testing.

His union was also of opinion that they should get rid of the wage-stop system, which was an insult to the intelligence of low-paid workers. It meant that many workers were working for less than the national assistance system would allow them if they were on national assistance.

Britain two nations

Mr. C. Jenkins, Association of Supervisory Staffs, Executives and Technicians, warned the general council that the battle against selectivity was on. Universality was the objective of the benevolent society. Not everyone had his means tested "If you are an industrialist and want investment allowances, they do not question whether you are rich or poor. If you are a farmer and want special grants they do not care whether you are rich or poor, you get the money. If you are a mortgage holder, particularly if you have a large house, you get enormous relief."

Benefits ought to be provided out of general taxation.

Double standards were operated for medicine, housing, general



Lord Collison: "Opposition based on realism."

welfare and education. Britain was two nations, and the advocates of selectivity would widen the gap.

Mr. L. Cannon, Electrical Trades Union, said he opposed the motion because it denied the use of a flexible instrument. He believed that selectivity was one of the most flexible instruments of modern government.

Trade unionists had pressed for more selectivity in investment grants, but the attitude of the Confederation of British Industry towards such proposals was exactly the same as the attitude of the movers of this motion.

The motion was approved without a card vote.

Call for pensions

Moving a motion on retirement pensions, **Mr. H. G. Bellingham, Society of Lithographic Artists**, said his organization believed that workers should not have to continue to rely on company schemes and insurance companies to provide them with an adequate pension on retirement.

The motion called on congress to declare that there was an urgent need to increase the benefits of the state-graduated pension scheme in order that the living standards of retired people should be raised and to enable such people who were unable to do so to retire and maintain reasonable living standards.

The motion, which was seconded by **Mr. G. A. Hutt, National Union of Journalists**, was carried unanimously.

Moving a motion on excessive working hours in the national health service, **Dr. P. S. Greaves, Medical Practitioners Union**, said that many junior doctors were working more than 120 hours a week.

The motion called on the Government to take urgent measures to reduce excessive working hours wherever they existed, and to ensure that work in excess of an agreed maximum was rewarded at overtime rates of pay.

The motion was carried.

'Stop anarchy in building'

Congress agreed to a composite motion welcoming the inquiry into labour-only subcontracting and self-employment in the construction industry, but viewing with concern the increase in this type of employment and the growth of contract labour agencies, particularly as they affected industrial relations and hard-won workshop conditions.

The motion called on the general council to consider means whereby the "degeneration and anarchy" created by these forms of employment might be halted, and to ask the Government to take steps to counter the evasions and problems these recent phenomena had brought to the labour scene.

Mr. I. Clark, Plumbing Trades Union, who moved the composite motion, said Government legislation had introduced contracts of employment, industrial training and redundancy payments, which placed substantial obligations on employers. But the more unscrupulous firms were able to evade most, if not all, of their obligations.

It was known, he said, that unemployment in the building industry was likely to rise sharply this winter, as it had in previous winters. Significantly, there was no recorded evidence of unemployment among the 300,000 "pirates" estimated to be in this industry.

They were asked to accept that there could be a jungle-type free-for-all, a festering sore in a healthy body. It was a complete contradiction. The Government and employers alike should be made to end this scandal.

Mr. W. E. Winterbottom, Draughtsmen's and Allied Technicians' Association, supporting the motion, said growth of self-employment was widespread and creating problems for every section of the trade union movement.

The motion was approved.



T.U.C. delegates listening to the debate.

'Plan jobs for the displaced'

A resolution was unanimously approved deploring the policy pursued by the Government on the redeployment of Labour without first ensuring jobs were available in respective areas and the necessary accommodation provided by subsidies to local authorities.

Moved by **Mr. H. Burrows, National Society of Metal Mechanics**, it called on the general council to insist upon a planned industrial policy from the Government to phase the transfer of labour in order that the full economic capacity of workers could be realized.

Mr. Burrows said no one could disagree with the idea of workers going into what were becoming depressed areas. In theory it was an excellent idea, but in practice it was not working out as it ought to.

What was found when the TSR 2 contracts were cancelled was that workers in the aircraft industry in Preston were transferred to jobs in Chester, and on arriving there found that the local authority had not even planned any accommodation for families. As a result, most of the skilled aircraft workers moved back to Preston and took another job, and their skill was lost by the industry.

Skilled milkmen

In his own area in London one company moved to another area and men offered transfer there went to find that rents were between £6 and £5 a week.

He knew skilled men who were working as postmen and milkmen, and even using their redundancy pay to buy themselves insurance books. The country was spending millions of pounds to train people to fill the very vacancies that skilled people were leaving to go into non-productive work.

We were getting areas which were administrative and non-productive, and children in these areas who would be taking manual jobs would have to go to live in other areas to get work.

The resolution was approved without debate.

Equal pay plea

Speaking on the general council report on equal pay, **Mrs. E. A. Hunt, Association of Scientific Workers**, said that the Government and the general council appeared to have given way to the dolaying tactics of the employers. They had always known that the employers would not give way without a struggle. In the own union women had achieved equal pay with their colleagues after a tremendous struggle.

Miss A. Leak, National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers, said women workers represented one-third of the working population. They had had to wait one hundred years to get the vote, but they did not intend to wait for equal pay much longer.

Mr. D. E. Wilson, Amalgamated Engineering Union, said the trade union movement should unite to bring pressure on the Government on this long-standing question of equal pay.

Mr. G. H. Lowthian, Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers, speaking on behalf of the general council, said what the women delegates had said only reinforced them in their determination to press the Government and employers for a conclusion to talk and a move toward realization.

Casual car workers

A delegate from the **Transport and General Workers' Union, Mr. C. H. Urwin**, called attention to a paragraph in the report of the general council dealing with guaranteed earnings.

In many industries—like the car industry—the only way unions had been able to ensure any security of employment had been by arranging hours of work to meet demand, he said. This sometimes meant working as little as a three-day week in winter and extended hours in spring.

Government pressure to bring about greater labour mobility would result in a drift towards casual employment for a large number of workers in the car industry, undoing 20 years of trade union effort to get security of employment for these workers.

He asked the general council to request the Government to "quantify the pledge given to the general council in relation to the offer of legislation if the employers failed to negotiate agreement with the unions concerned."

Trades Union Congress Brighton, 1967

Union link across world

Congress carried unanimously a motion urging the general council to explore all possible means of achieving friendly contacts and consultations with all bona-fide trade unions and trade union federations, with the minimum objectives of hastening the social advance of workers in all countries and of preserving world peace.

The motion noted that Congress regretted the continued segregation of the world trade union movement in the face of continuing threats to world peace and the consequent necessity for nations to live together.

The mover, **Mr. R. Bond, Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians**, said that if Congress passed this motion they would be upholding the best international traditions of their movement. Oa them lay a special responsibility to take the initiative.

Moral responsibility

Mr. J. Hepplewhite, Amalgamated Society of Boilermakers, Shipwrights, Blacksmiths, and Structural Workers, seconding the motion, said the T.U.C. was in effect the father and mother of the trade union movement. They had a moral responsibility to try to bring together, even for a limited dialogue only, the world trade unions.

Mr. F. Hayday, a member of the National Union of General and Municipal Workers, said there was no reference in the motion to either the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions—to which the T.U.C. was affiliated—or to the World Federation of Trade Unions. The general council were unlikely at present to establish formal contacts with the W.F.T.U.; their international work was through the I.C.F.T.U.; and subsidiaries of it. It would be wrong for them to make contact with a trade union centre which was not a party to the same organization as themselves. The general council was not opposing the motion, but felt it should be considered against this background.

The motion was agreed to.

Speaking on a section of the general council report which dealt with the policy and finances of the I.C.F.T.U., **Mr. J. E. Mortimer, Draughtsmen's and Allied Technicians' Association**, said it had been reported that in the past 12 months the Central Intelligence Agency of the United States Government had passed millions of pounds through dummy foundations to American trade unions. The charges made were very detailed indeed.

"I hope" he said, "that the general council will agree that this is a matter which concerns many unions at this Congress."

Mr. George Woodcock, general secretary, emphasized that there should be no assumption in the conference that the T.U.C. had had any money from any sources other than affiliated bodies of Congress. "I do not want it to be thought", he said, "that the T.U.C. has anything to hide. We are perfectly capable of doing our own job and paying our own way."

Call to end the Vietnam war

By a majority of 1,367,000 votes, delegates passed a resolution calling on the British Government to dissociate itself from American policy in Vietnam, in spite of a plea by Mr. Hayday, chairman of the T.U.C. international committee, asking for it to be opposed.

The voting was: for, 4,686,000; against, 3,319,000.

The resolution also called upon the British Government to make every effort, based on the 1954 Geneva agreement, to bring about an end to the war with a view to implementing the "no foreign troops" and "nationwide elections" clauses in the 1954 agreement.

Mr. Hayday said the general council were asking delegates to oppose the resolution because it was already the policy of Congress that there should be a cessation of bombing in order that negotiations could take place.

Moving the motion **Mr. J. E. Mortimer, Draughtsmen's and Allied Technicians' Association**, said Congress last year had called for the stopping of bombing of North Vietnam as a step towards securing a political atmosphere more likely to secure a negotiated lasting peace. This was the official policy of the trade union movement. What had happened since that debate—had there been a stopping of bombing of North Vietnam? On the contrary, the bombing had been intensified.

Delegates would recall that the British Prime Minister had said, on the possibility of the bombing of cities last year, that we could not support the bombing of Hanoi or Haiphong. He had said we should be "bound to reaffirm that we must dissociate from any action of this kind".

What had changed Mr. Wilson in fulfilling the undertaking he gave over a year ago, because cities in North Vietnam had been bombed?

US isolated

The association was asking Congress to dissociate from the policy of the United States. Those who supported the United States in this were finding themselves increasingly isolated in the world.

The policy of bombing cities was today supported by reactionary southern Democrats, those who opposed labour legislation in the United States, and reactionary Republicans. He asked Congress not to place itself on the same side.

The motion went further than dissociation from the United States policy. The only way to get a settlement in Vietnam was a return to the principle of the Geneva agreement of 1954. That agreement was that there should be no foreign troops, and no foreign bases, and that there should be new elections in Vietnam to elect a Vietnamese Government. That in the end was what we should have to go back to.

Mr. W. Zak, National Union of Furniture Trade Operatives, seconding the motion, said he was sure Congress would say that the Vietnamese people had a right to peace, the ending of American aggression, and to live their own lives.

Mr. C. Bush, Civil Service Clerical Association, said he added the support of his union to the motion. He did not question the sincerity of most trade unionists, who expressed support for American policy in Vietnam, and was even prepared to accept the honesty of some of the politicians who did the same. But he could not believe that these people were really prepared to face the inevitable responsibility of a mounting misery and shame—the price of their continued support.

"Are we to continue to support a policy which spews freedom from the belly of a bomber and prosperity from the muzzle of a rifle? Strange fruits from the hands of a delivering angel."

'Turning their back'

Mr. W. P. Blair, Electrical Trades Union, said the motion did nothing to bring about peace in Vietnam. It was one-sided, because peace was not the prerogative of only one side.

The E.T.U. wholeheartedly agreed that the aim should be the cessation of war and the withdrawal of foreign troops from Vietnam. The argument was about how peace could best be achieved. Congress must beware of making empty utterances which sounded attractive and virtuous but were difficult to achieve.

On a card vote the motion was passed by 4,686,000 votes to 3,319,000 votes—a majority for the motion of 1,367,000.

Arab recognition of Israel 'essential'

Some feeling was aroused when a section of the report dealing with the Middle East was considered.

Mr. Hayday said the council recognized that Israel desired to live



Mr. Frank Cousins suggested visit to Arab countries.

in peace, secure from future attacks. This was a desire which Congress should support, while encouraging Israel towards peaceful cooperation with the Arab nations for the common benefit of all in the Middle East.

The general council considered it essential that the Arab countries should recognize the existence of the state of Israel, and that direct negotiations should take place between the Arab states and Israel on the existing problems in the aftermath of war. It was hoped this would lead to a general settlement of the Middle East situation.

Mr. Gordon Norris, National Union of Seamen, said he could not allow this to pass without comment. There was no doubt that Israel now occupied territory of Egypt, Jordan, and Syria, and this sooner or later would lead to a renewed outbreak of hostilities. He agreed with the council that renewed hostilities must be avoided, but it was wrong to think that the Arabs would negotiate with the Israelis under duress while their territories occupied.

"Everyone", he said, "must urge Israel to end the occupation of these territories and return to their own territories as they were before the war."

Mr. Frank Cousins, Transport and General Workers' Union, said that one of the greatest disservices that Congress could make towards the cause of peace in the Middle East was to divide itself into pro-Arab and pro-Jew.

After commenting on his visit to Israel with Mr. Hayday, Mr. Cousins said it had been suggested that they might also go to see some of the representatives of workers in the Arab countries. This he, and he felt sure the Trades Union Congress, would be happy to do.

Mr. J. Ennals, Association of Supervisory Staffs Executives and Technicians, supporting the views of Mr. Cousins, said Congress should not enter into the pros and cons of a very difficult situation. He welcomed the report made by Mr. Hayday.

Psychopaths in gaol

The need for special units in regional hospital boards for criminal psychopaths was urged by **Mr. A. R. Akers, Confederation of Health Service Employers.**

Congress approved a motion moved by Mr. Akers which called on the Minister of Health to implement the report of the working party on special hospitals, published in 1961. This recommended the provision of special units on a regional hospital board basis where criminal psychopaths would be treated under conditions of security, and so remove the risk of danger to the public and other hospital patients.

Mr. Akers said that since the report only two small units had been created.

Council election

Newcomers to the T.U.C. General Council for the coming year are Mr. J. M. Boyd, Amalgamated Engineering Union; Mr. A. Roberts, National Union of Vehicle Builders; Mr. D. H. Davies, Iron and Steel Trade Confederation; and Mr. J. Jones, Transport and General Workers' Union.

Election results announced today also confirm Mr. T. Jackson, Union of Post Office Workers, in the seat he has occupied since Mr. R. Smith of that union resigned earlier this year to join the British Steel Corporation.

Mr. Jones replaces Mr. H. G. Nicholas, Transport and General Workers' Union, who resigned from the council when he became the union's nominee for the Labour Party national executive committee.

Unions Clash Over Social Security.
FROM STAFF REPORTERS

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Sep 06, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57039.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS100887846

Stop fighting call by S Arabia Army

Rival nationalists in battle

From JEROME CAMINADA—Aden, Sept. 6

Arab officers of the South Arabian Army and police tonight called on supporters of the two rival nationalist groups—the National Liberation Front (N.L.F.) and the Front for the Liberation of Occupied South Yemen (Flosy)—to stop fighting by 10 a.m. tomorrow.

There has been a battle between the rivals in Lahej state, near Aden. The N.L.F., which claims that at least 20 people have been killed, is said to have appealed to President Nasser of Egypt to intervene.

In a four-point statement, the officers called on both groups to negotiate with Britain on a basis of the United Nations resolutions on South Arabia.

The first point stipulated that Dar Saad, Lahej and Bir Ahamad in Aqrabi state should be evacuated by factional elements by 10 a.m. tomorrow, and these areas become military areas controlled by the South Arabian Army and police.

The second point was an appeal to nationalist forces to stop the killing.

The third point was a direct statement that the N.L.F. and Flosy should negotiate with Britain to discuss the United Nations resolutions on independence for territory and the restoring of normal conditions.

The fourth point declared that if any nationalist group tried to circumvent these resolutions the Army and police would decide what action to take.

British hopes are pinned on the N.L.F. and Flosy coming together, in spite of all outward signs.

In Wahidi state, the mystery of the helicopter disaster continues and each day contrary reports are given to the press. It is now being said that the machine itself has not been found.

The names of the two British soldiers, missing believed killed, in a helicopter in Wahidi were released yesterday by the Ministry of Defence.

They are Major Peter Frederick Gooch, of Cape Province, South Africa, and Sergeant John Francis Baulcomb, the pilot, of Middle Wallop, Stockbridge, Hants.

Leading article, page 11.

British offer includes all nationalists

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

BEIRUT, SEPT. 6

Lord Shackleton, British Minister without portfolio, left here tonight for Saudi Arabia where he expects to meet King Faisal tomorrow. Answering a question before departure, he said that Britain would be willing to talk to Flosy as well as to its rival, the N.L.F.

He was asked whether the British offer yesterday of talks with nationalist forces included Flosy. He answered: "Nationalist is a wide term. It includes other forces than the N.L.F. I think it is important that Flosy should offer to come forward, but neither will talk to us and at the moment it is the N.L.F. which is the real power on the ground."

Our Cairo Correspondent writes:—The United Nations mission on Aden arrived here today from Beirut for talks on the future of South Arabia with Egyptian officials and Flosy representatives.

Flosy later issued a statement condemning the British offer to enter into negotiations with the N.L.F. as an imperialist conspiracy.

Stop fighting call by S Arabia Army.
From JEROME CAMINADA-

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Sep 07, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57040.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67333415



Members of the United Nations mission on Aden speaking with the press on arrival in Cairo yesterday.

ARAB DEFEAT BLAMED ON CAIRO GROUP

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT—Moscow, Sept. 6

Blame for the Arab defeat in the war with Israel is being placed here with increasing confidence on the shoulders of Field Marshal Amer, former First Vice-President of Egypt, who is under house arrest in Cairo, and feudal forces unwilling to go along with socialist policies.

With Mahmoud Riad, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, standing by here as support for this version, *Pravda* said today that the Amer group had intended to launch a propaganda campaign to place responsibility for the military defeat on "friends of the United Arab Republic".

Israel 'repression'

This transparent hint at the Soviet Union comes after the assertion that "particular responsibility" belonged to a group of Army and Air Force officers who took no steps to prepare for Israel's attack, even though they had intelligence about preparatory moves by Israel.

Earlier Soviet press reports had identified these individuals with a "businessman soldier" class which, it said, existed in Egypt's armed forces.

There was no reference to the position of Egypt's communists. However, another article in *Pravda* complained that in Israel the Tel Aviv authorities continued "repressions" of Israel communists who "defend the true interests of the Israel people". Travel restrictions were imposed on leaders of the Communist Party of Israel, trade union leaders, and members of other progressive organizations.

Our Cairo Correspondent writes:—It was announced here that 42 Egyptians were killed and 161 wounded when Israel troops opened fire in the Suez area on Monday.

The announcement said 'that a Greek cargo ship was sunk and an Indian ship damaged as a result of Israel shelling. Thirty houses, two hospitals and two mosques were damaged in the town of Suez. United Nations observers went to the area to see the result of "Israel aggression".

CAIRO, Sept. 6.—Amin el-Howeidi, the War Minister, has been put in charge of Egypt's intelligence service, the newspaper *Al Akhbar* said today.

It was reported yesterday that Salah Nasr, the director of armed forces general intelligence, had been cashiered because his department had deviated from its original duties.

President Nasser today lifted the sequestration of Saudi Arabian property in Egypt, including that of King Faisal and 80 Saudi Arabian families.

The Egyptian Government sequestrated Saudi Arabian property last year when Saudi Arabia closed two Egyptian banks operating at Jiddah and Riyadh.—*Reuter* and *Agence France Presse*.

16 Botswana infiltrators gaoled

FRANCISTOWN, BOTSWANA, Sept. 6.—Twelve of 13 alleged terrorists and four other alleged infiltrators were gaoled by Francistown magistrate's court today.

Six were sentenced to 30 months and 10 others to three years. One case was continuing.

Thirteen of the men are said to belong to the group which last week fought a battle with Rhodesia security forces in the Wankie national park area, south of Zambezi, and to have been captured on Sunday.

This brings to 30 the number of alleged infiltrators captured by Botswana police since large-scale operations started in Rhodesia a fortnight ago.

The 13 men, who were lying in the bush near the Mitengwe river, south of the Rhodesia border, surrendered as soon as they were told by the police patrol that they were in Botswana, it was stated. They said they were lost.

The police said the men had all their weapons and large amounts of ammunition in army packs.

The court was told that most of the men were members of the banned South African National Congress and that they all came from Zambia.—*Agence France Presse*.

Arab Defeat Blamed On Cairo Group.
FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT-

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Sep 07, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57040.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS101281063

Egypt tomb discovery

BY OUR ARCHAEOLOGICAL CORRESPONDENT

Another family tomb has been found at Saqqara, the cemetery area of ancient Memphis, 15 miles south of Cairo.

The only group of private tombs so far found has been excavated by the Egyptian Antiquities Service in the Unas area of the site. The paintings of the owners of the tomb on the wall of the recently discovered sepulchre are similar to those found in December, 1965, in the neighbouring tomb of the court jeweller. The private tombs are later than the First Dynasty necropolis, excavated for many years by Professor Emery, being of the Fifth Dynasty (2500 and 2340 B.C.).

This was the period following that of the great pyramid builders such as Zoser, when Egypt was in economic decline. As a result of this the Pharaoh was being relegated to a less overpoweringly divine status, with a corresponding increase in the power and influence of the administrative and professional classes.

The private tombs are of such "new men", and will shed a great deal of light on what was in effect a social revolution in ancient Egypt.

Egypt tomb discovery.
BY OUR ARCHAEOLOGICAL CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Sep 09, 1967; pg. 3; Issue 57042.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS52391209

AFRICA STATES MAY SET UP WAR COMMAND

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT—Kinshasa, Sept. 11

African leaders from 37 countries meeting here are expected to approve the setting up of a committee of military experts from 17 states to develop the armed struggle against minority governments in southern Africa.

The Organization of African Unity summit meeting is expected to vote a secret budget said by informed sources to total $2m. (more than £700,000) for the use of resistance movements to white rule. An official spokesman admitted the secret figure exceeds the draft budget of $1,100,000 (about £390,000) for the organization itself. The proposals include an increase in the "special fund for Rhodesia".

Five of the countries in the proposed military committee—Egypt, Algeria, Morocco, Ethiopia and the Congo—have armies varying from 10 to 60 times the size of Rhodesia's army which, together with Portuguese forces, is the main adversary. The use of "volunteers" and "military advisers" is being discussed.

The presidents, Prime Ministers, and senior Ministers whose summit meeting began today will probably approve a draft resolution insisting that rival resistance movements in Angola, Mozambique, and Rhodesia should "coordinate and unify their action". Two parties from each of these countries are represented here.

There is some support among delegates for the view expressed by the Nigerian delegation leader, Chief Obafemi Awolowo, that African countries rather than Britain could and should deal with the Smith regime: delegates speculate that foreign African action, after Pretoria's admission that South Africa has armed forces on Rhodesian soil, might precipitate British intervention.

"The prospect is that, however small the engagement, Algerians and South Africans may be shooting at each other in the streets of Kariba, a town in a British colony", a lawyer-delegate noted wryly today.

Another important outcome of the conference may be the expulsion of Malawi from the O.A.U. Malawi's controversial president Dr. Banda has just decided to exchange embassies with South Africa. He has not sent a delegation to the summit.

Tshombe enigma

The rest of this week's meeting will be mainly concerned with plans for inter-African cooperation—including an organization-wide extradition treaty—and a move to transfer all frontier disputes to the now dormant conciliation and arbitration committee headed by Nigerian lawyer Mr. Michael Odesanya. Apparently in a bid to reinject a frontier dispute into the conference itself, Somalia—whose border conflict with Ethiopia has already cost seven years of sometimes sharp fighting—has asked the meeting to approve its candidacy for Ethiopia's present Security Council seat when it becomes vacant in 1969. This will probably provoke a sharp exchange.

The conference will also select a site for an African arts festival to be held next year. Addis Ababa, Dar es Salaam, Conakry and Douala are being discussed.

Algeria, the vanguard state of radical Africa, is still declining to send Mr. Moise Tshombe, radical Africa's main target for hatred, back to the Congo, where he has been condemned to death *in absentia*. There are as many theories about Algeria's attitude as there are delegates to the summit.

When Mr. Tshombe was first kidnapped by a French ex-convict in midair two months ago and taken to Algeria, President Mobutu of the Congo was so anxious to have him that he switched the Congo's United Nations votes on the Middle East war to please the Arabs.

But President Boumédienne of Algeria, was not giving Mr. Tshombe up as easily as that. Informed sources here say he demanded that the Congo sever relations with Israel and Formosa and support Algiers as the place for the next O.A.U. meeting. He held on to Mr. Tshombe's two British pilots, these sources say, to persuade Britain to negotiate with the National Liberation Front in Aden, which Algeria backs against the Egypt-supported Flosy movement.

Mr. Tshombe, according to the consensus guess of delegates, will be "left to rot" somewhere in the Algerian interior, and the Congo will quietly forget its extradition order.

KINSHASA, Sept. 11.—Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia today called on the world community to use force to bring down the white minority regime in Rhodesia. Addressing the opening session of the O.A.U., he said that economic sanctions applied by the British Government had failed.—*Agence France Presse.*



President Kaunda of Zambia, who is in Kinshasa for the conference of the Organization of African Unity, shakes hands with Mr. J. C. G. Brown, Canadian Ambassador to the Congo.

Africa States May Set Up War Command.
FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT-

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Sep 12, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57044.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67857708

ISRAEL OPENING DOOR TO 6,200 REFUGEES

From DAVID SPANIER—Jerusalem, Sept. 11

The Israel Ministry of the Interior has announced that the 6,200 refugees who were granted entry permits to return to the west bank of the Jordan but were unable to come back by the end of last month may cross at the Allenby Bridge next Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday. No time limit has been set for their return.

If they all come, a total of just over 20,000 refugees will have returned from Transjordan. The grand total of people who fled from the west bank because of the war is estimated by Red Cross officials as somewhere approaching 150,000. Many of these people also want to return, but by no means all of them.

An official spokesman said there was "no change" in the Government's ban on accepting more refugees, after last night's Cabinet meeting. However, the question has certainly been considered and it would not surprise observers here if Mr. Abba Eban, the Foreign Minister, takes a more accommodating line at the United Nations discussion on refugees.

A supplementary budget for £Is.552m. (about £63m.) was presented to the Knesset today by Mr. Ze-ev Sharef, the acting Finance Minister. Its aims are first, to help get the economy moving again after long and continuing stagnation, and second, to carry out various development projects, delayed because of lack of capital and other resources.

Public spending from the budget will generate two million working days, according to the Finance Ministry, and so help reduce unemployment, which stands at slightly over 30,000.

354 Egyptians repatriated

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

TEL AVIV, SEPT. 11

Israel today repatriated to Egypt 346 civilians and eight wounded soldiers under an arrangement negotiated by the International Red Cross.

The Egyptians ferried across the Suez Canal at El Qantara in three launches included 292 officials and teachers from the Gaza Strip, whose wives and children were returned to Egypt on August 3.

Israel Opening Door To 6,200 Refugees.
From DAVID SPANIER-

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Sep 12, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57044.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS84372780

Call by Cairo editor welcome

BY OUR DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The Foreign Office displayed a distinctly positive interest yesterday in the article in this week's *Sunday Times* by Dr. Muhammad Hassanein Heikal, the editor of the leading Cairo newspaper, *Al Ahram*. In the article, Dr. Heikal called for a genuine dialogue as equals, between Britain and the United Arab Republic.

Dr. Heikal stands particularly close to President Nasser in the Egyptian hierarchy. His appeal for talks "as equals"—after a thoughtful analysis of the grounds for mutual misunderstanding over the past 100 years—was certainly welcomed here as moderate and well thought out.

A spokesman, commenting specifically upon it, said: "This is clearly an important article which is being studied with interest."

The obvious deduction to be drawn from the tone of comment in London was that the British Government would be happy to begin talks on a resumption of diplomatic relations, but that, as it was the U.A.R. Government which broke off relations—in 1965 over British failure to force a liberal constitution upon the white Rhodesians—it was for the U.A.R. Government to propose the first steps towards reconciliation.

Certainly, the British Government have always held since the break in relations, that diplomatic contacts between Britain and the U.A.R. were desirable—and indeed particularly desirable when relations are most difficult.

This belief, it is clear, was not jettisoned by the British Government's decision that Lord Shackleton, Britain's special envoy on Aden, should not go to Egypt for further talks with the United Nations Mission on South Arabia, who were there meeting the representatives of the Front for the Liberation of Occupied South Yemen (Flosy).

Clearly there are in fact now rather brighter hopes that contacts with the U.A.R. Government will be resumed.

Dr. Heikal in his article wrote of the hopes in Egypt of better relations with Britain after the Labour Government came to office, and of the deep disappointment felt there when Britain suspended the Aden constitution and dismissed the nationalist Government there on the eve of a talk arranged between President Nasser and Mr. George Thomson, Minister of State at the Foreign Office. After this, the President cancelled the arrangement.

On the British side it can be said that the British Government made several efforts to get talks begun. Mr. George Brown seized the opportunity of the presence by chance of himself and Field Marshal Hakim Amer in Leningrad in November, 1966 to make contact. Field Marshal Amer was then Vice-President in the U.A.R. Government.

All in all, however, the reaction yesterday was certainly not to treat Dr. Heikal's article as a subject for polemics but rather to accept it readily as a genuine sign that better relations can soon be established.

Call by Cairo editor welcome.
BY OUR DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Sep 12, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57044.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS84503852

THE CONSERVATIVES AND ADEN

From Lord Carrington

Sir,—Your leading article (September 7) suggests that the arrangements made by the last Conservative Government for British participation in the defence of South Arabia after independence would not have stopped "the overthrow of traditional rule by popular forces or terrorist gangs". I do not understand why you choose to equate "popular forces" with "terrorist gangs". For the terrorist gangs have been incited and supported by external forces, chiefly in Egypt, in order to exploit the vacuum left by British withdrawal.

The result of this incitement has been a murderous struggle for power. There can be little doubt that the Conservative Government's undertaking to sign a defence treaty with the South Arabian Government would have provided a strong deterrent to these ambitions and the terrorism which they inspired.

Our main charge against the Government is that by concentrating almost wholly on British withdrawal from Aden and announcing it so far in advance the Government has encouraged the violence and terrorism which daily cost the lives of soldiers and civilians, British and Arab.

The Government had been nearly three years in office before it made any serious effort to secure a more broadly based Federal Government. Can anyone really be so certain that, if these three years had not been wasted, Federal rule in Aden would still have been overthrown by the gunmen?

Yours faithfully,

CARRINGTON.

House of Lords, Sept. 12.

The Conservatives And Aden.
CARRINGTON. House of Lords, Sept. 12

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Sep 13, 1967; pg. 9; Issue 57045.

Category: Letters to the Editor

Gale Document Number:CS152137005

TIMES PAST
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Deep divisions among the oil producers

Tomorrow in Rome the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries is meeting for the first time since the Middle East War. It is, perhaps, the most crucial meeting of OPEC's history. Already put off once, to allow the Arab member countries to attend their summit meeting at Khartum, it brings about a confrontation between the widely different interests of OPEC Members. It could even mean the end of OPEC as a real force in the world of oil.

For a start, three OPEC members have completely disregarded one of OPEC's cardinal rules : that member countries should not benefit from each other's misfortunes. Yet, when the Arab countries first banned all exports of oil and later reduced this to an embargo on three " aggressor " states, Iran, Venezuela and Indonesia simply stepped up their exports to fill the gap. They would, of course, argue that the ban was a political matter, doubtfully based and of no concern to them. Why should Venezuela, say, support the Arab countries in squabbles with countries on whom Venezuela's own economic wellbeing depends ?

This no more than illustrates the deep divisions between OPEC's members, whose only common interest is a determination to get a larger share of the benefits from their national oil resources. The Arabs might, however, argue that this aim was best advanced under all conditions by the oil exporting community sticking together. But this is a somewhat idealistic point of view and OPEC, despite its frequent statement of the highest motives, is a very practical body.

It came into existence at a time when the whole basis of the western oil companies' operations in foreign countries was in question. More specifically, it was set up in the autumn of 1960 to counter a number of moves by oil companies to raise posted prices. Since these were (and are) the reference levels on which taxes were calculated—and since, in any case, they bore little relation to the prices actually charged—the host governments saw these moves as a direct threat to their revenues.

OPEC certainly succeeded in its initial aim : it is now unthinkable that prices should come down. Indeed, one of the reasons for the companies' reluctance to accede to Libya's request to raise prices, based on the temporary circumstance of the Suez Canal closure, was the certain knowledge that the increase would never be taken back—leaving the companies with a greatly increased tax bill. Perhaps more important, OPEC's existence has resulted in a standard form of agreement : with the exception of Iraq, which never got round to ratifying the negotiated settlement with the Iraq Petroleum Company, all companies operate under the same broad tax framework.

It is questionable how far OPEC itself provided the impetus for these reforms. It is the common experience of such bodies—like cartels—that they are most effective when they are not strictly needed. As soon as conditions put a strain on the cohesion between their members they tend to break up. Thus, OPEC appeared at the time when reform was in the air : it was the crystallization of those governments' aspirations. But now that part at least of the aspirations has been fulfilled, the differences between the members may override their common interests.

The first hurdle that must be overcome in Rome, therefore, is the need to reconcile these differences. In the interests of all members and the future of OPEC the Arabs may be prepared to ignore the others' recent *schweinerei;* and Venezuela, Iran and Indonesia may promise, for the sake of appearances, not to do it again. Unless this obstacle is overcome it is hard to believe that the conference will achieve anything.

If it is, the member countries will feel free to settle down to a comfortable discussion of new ways to screw the oil companies. The Arab countries in particular feel a powerful need to recoup the direct losses of the war. Kuwait and Saudi Arabia will want to finance the enormous loans to Egypt and Jordan agreed at Khartum. Perhaps some demonstration of government firmness may for political reasons be expedient in the Middle East. Whatever the motives, everything points to a resumption of pressure on the oil companies by OPEC.

It is a fair guess that this will take the form of a new campaign against the companies for them to drop the so-called OPEC discount —an allowance of $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent off the tax reference prices. It would have the same effect on the Government's revenues as an increase in price. And, as part of OPEC's existing policy, would be a handy goal to aim at. Indeed, the companies had already started preliminary grappling on this issue before the war.

But everything depends on the members first being able to agree that their interests lie in keeping OPEC going. The Arabs, who have some difficulty in recognizing even their own common interests, have a nascent Arab petroleum group—another of the results of Khartum—to pin their hopes on. If they decided to put their weight behind that, to pursue a pan-Arab oil policy, OPEC would be condemned to a powerless existence in Vienna.

Deep divisions among the oil producers.
The Times (London, England),Thursday, Sep 14, 1967; pg. 23; Issue 57046.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS386100526

Israel three months after her victory



The common talk is still of these soldiers' heroism. Yet, as they hitch-hike home on leave, empty cars pass them by.

Demand for a new kind of leader

FROM DAVID SPANIER

JERUSALEM

A strange depression hung over Israel before the six-day war. Months of discontent seemed to sap the people like a plague. It was not just the stagnating economy, though that certainly deepened national anxiety, nor the drying up of immigration, which is the nation's lifespring. It was something still deeper, a loss of faith in itself, which depressed the country.

What became unbearable, in the days after the closure of the Gulf of Aqaba, was the inaction: not that Israel was holding her fire, but the general sense that the Government was weak, hesitating, groping for its bearings. It may have been right to wait, to try what diplomacy could do. But the people did not trust their leaders at the time to decide.

To start with, Mr. Ben-Gurion was against General Dayan coming in as Defence Minister. "Wait. This Government will fall in four days", he told him.

"We have not got four days," General Dayan replied. From a man like General Dayan the people would have accepted a policy of waiting, because they trusted his military judgment, just as, when the policy was war, they did not have even a pinprick of doubt about their victory.

Hard country of hard people

The long period of depression before the war, now succeeded by elation, was symptomatic: it is a good starting point for seeing what Israel is like today.

Israel is a hard country. The climate is hard, the land is hard, the language is hard, the people are hard.

A Moroccan-born girl, now happily settled down, told me: "I suffered every day when I first came here. Every day I was hurt, I was let down, people broke their word. Every day I wept."

A young Israel writer put what is probably a general view: "We are a strange people. We are covered with layers of hardness. In a war, the deepest spirit of the people comes through. But in peace time we are impossible."

During the war people were eager, helpful, sacrificing, nothing was too much trouble. But on the seventh day, or quite soon after, they saw what they had created and reverted back to normal. An everyday example, which cannot but strike one by its blindness, is people's reluctance to give lifts to hitch-hiking soldiers. At every crossroads in Israel young soldiers stand hopefully, some on a few hours' leave, while empty cars pass them.

Yet the common talk is still of these same soldiers' heroism. At the hospital outside Jerusalem, so I was told, the wounded used to stay inside their wards rather than show themselves when Arabs from east Jerusalem came in for treatment.

In the war the new generation of Israelis proved themselves. It was far from being the general expectation. These armies were not pioneers, they were not rooted in the war of independence.

A survivor of a Lithuanian ghetto told me: "We were doubtful about the new generation. We did not know if they would really fight. Always rushing around, always their *discothèques*."

That the same doubt was shared by Mr. Eshkol, the Prime Minister, himself a vigorous 71, was implied when he said recently: "This very youth, some of whom were the subject of criticism as a result of their way of life and their lack of social values, was discovered as a wonderful youth. . . ."

But more significantly, the war was a stamp, in blood, of Israel nationality on the immigrants from North Africa and the Middle East, the so-called oriental Jews. Regaled in their school days by tales of heroism of their European founding fathers, inevitably feeling somewhat out of it, they have now fought and fought triumphantly. Military experts made it their job after the war to find out how the new immigrants stood the test. "One cannot say they fought better than the Sabras, because it would be impossible to fight better. They were all Israelis."

As in 1948, the nation fought not just from valour but from what in Hebrew is called *ein breira*—no alternative. In Britain we assume that as a nation in peril we will always fight as one (it was not so in France in 1940). But every Israeli believed that defeat meant massacre. The Arabs had theatened it ceaselessly.

Here was a case (there were others) of Arab propaganda rebounding on itself, for the oriental immigrants, many of whom speak Arabic (and who in other circumstances might have been Arab soldiers), had been incensed even further by the verbal attacks of Cairo radio. If there had been defeat for Israel, unthinkable for an army whose confidence in itself was sublime, then it would, surely, have been a repition of Masada, not Auschwitz: in other words self-slaughter not captivity.

In its speed, the completeness of Israel's victory took some time to grasp. It is true that Israel is still ringed with enemies, but they are impotent, as perhaps they are coming to realize. New arms are one thing, training men to use them is another. It takes years to train an air force.

Widespread weariness of war

Egyptian losses, moreover, are many thousands higher than announced. If the officers who fled back to Egypt have been purged, the officers who have been captured have been treated with care. Some of them have been conducted around Israel, given their choice of what they would like to see—there are other ways of making your point than with a bullet.

For the Israelis seem unmilitaristic conquerors. It is not a role for which history has prepared the Jewish people. They are neither vindictive (leaving aside the destruction of numbers of houses in Qalqiliya) nor even inimical. They feel quite unhostile to the Arab people (as opposed to their leaders). They would like to work with them, help them, in the main feel sorry (perhaps with some guilt) for them. If this includes, too, an overt feeling of superiority, here is the verdict of an eminent psychoanalyst:—

"What is astonishing, psychologically, is that there is no hate in these people. The great tensions released after the war had to find an outlet. This perhaps explains all the frantic rushing off to visit the occupied territories. But feelings of hate are quite absent—it is not in the Jewish tradition."

The difference after this war from 1948 and 1956 is that Israel's victory is so complete that the nation is not under pressure to settle for anything less than full peace. In a way the Israel attitude is naive: as pushful, argumentative, but basically reasonable people they seem to believe that the Arab leaders should respond, sit down with them and talk equally reasonably. That is what they would like, and if the Government knows the prospect is remote, it is none the less undeterred.

A senior member of Mapai, the main Government party, put it this way: "We are prepared to stay on in the occupied territories for a year, for two years, five years, a generation if necessary. We shall not move until we get a settlement."

This is not militaristic, nor is it boasting. It springs from a widespread weariness of war, war which each time is caused by failing to secure a proper peace. Israelis are neither hawks nor doves. Or they are doves with hawks' talons. They are utterly determined not to repeat the same deadly pattern.

The fact is—or "the new reality", to use a favourite Israel phrase—that three months after the war, Israel stands alone and in complete command of her situation in the Middle East. For the first time in the life of the state, her defence is secure; her borders are easier to defend; no Israel settlement is within shelling distance of Arab guns; her enemies remain divided, bereft of a realistic policy. Israelis do not see why they should settle for anything less than a lasting peace. The country, like the new generation, has come of age.

All over the country two men are mentioned in the same breath: Moshe Dayan and Yigal Allon. Neither of them, at 52 and 49, is exactly young; but they count as young, because they represent a clear division in generations after the old Russian-born and Polish-born establishment.

General Dayan is, of course, a national hero. But he has bitter political opponents. They fear that as a Prime Minister he would be autocratic, a "strong man". As Minister of Agriculture he had some successes, though people only remember his spectacular failure to foist on the country a new kind of tomato, "the moneymaker", which singularly failed to live up to its name.

He speaks Arabic and is believed to understand how to talk to the Arabs. He is an unquestioned patriot in the pure sense, but it could be argued that he is not a typical Israeli—he is said to be totally unemotional and self-contained, might have scant patience for democratic processes and coalition-mongering, and is not much of a man for family life. General Dayan, above all, knows his own mind. One day at a press conference, when a certain Minister was waffling round his subject, an Israel colleague slipped me a cryptic note: "Now you see why we need Dayan."

Views about future leadership

General Allon is also a national hero, as commander of the Palmach, the shock troops in the war of independence. He was brought up and still lives on a *kibbutz* near Galilee: twice a week, summer and winter, he leaves the whirl of affairs in Jerusalem and goes back there. He also speaks Arabic (and refers to President Nasser as "my old friend"—he captured him in 1948) and has studied political science for a time at Oxford.

As Minister of Labour facing the disastrous train of unemployment, he has not made much of a mark; the blame for unemployment, however, has fallen on the Treasury. He is a man of no less force and respect than General Dayan, and is shrewdly placed in a position of heir apparent to the establishment, rather than its executioner.

Here are three representative views about the future leadership:—

A Hungarian-born goldsmith, now in charge of the (automated) cattle sheds on a *kibbutz*, and a Sabra in Sinai gave almost identical answers: "I want a change. I do not care if it is Dayan or Allon or where he comes from, but I want a young man, a man who can take decisions".

A fifth-generation intellectual: "I believe that the men who have been brought up in the *diaspora* (dispersed Jewry) cannot help unconsciously taking over some of its attitudes. They have done their part. Now we must have a man who is born here, who thinks and feels as we do".

An eminent Rabbi: "I feel very alarmed by charismatic leaders. Our experience of recent years does not commend them."

Israel is endowed with some remarkable men, soldier-scholars like Professor Yigal Yadin, the excavator of Masada, who has been chief-of-staff, builder of the modern Army, and is now Professor of Archaeology at the Hebrew University. The versatility of such men seems peculiar to Israelis: it stems from the organic way that in Israel religious study and general education lead on to connect, through Jewish history, with political life.

To take it from another angle: at times of national crisis the research scientists at the Weizmann Institute can close the door of their laboratories and step over into high-level military planning. Having once been in the Israel Army, knowing the general staff, their emergency role does not seem to them too incongruous.

The slow struggle of the left-wing parties to regroup before the next general election in 1969 is, fundamentally, about this transfer of power to the new leaders. The young generation is bored by the manoeuvring of internal politics. It is unmoved by the old back-to-the-land ideology of the early pioneers, who still hold, with their *protectsia* (old boy net) the key positions of power throughout the country.

Change is coming. The point is that until the transfer of power is begun, Israel will not feel nearly as sure of herself in peace as she did in war. The paradox is that the new generation of leaders, men like General Dayan and General Allon, who grew up on the land in the pioneer spirit, are the men who must adapt this tradition to meet the challenge of building a new, science-oriented, industrial society.

Tomorrow: David Spanier discusses oriental attitudes and European convictions.

Demand for a new kind of leader.
FROM DAVID SPANIER

The Times (London, England),Friday, Sep 15, 1967; pg. 8; Issue 57047.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS134442287

Suicide by Egypt army leader

Amer takes poison while held on plot charge

CAIRO, SEPT. 15

Field-Marshal Abdel Hakim Amer, the right-hand man of President Nasser until the Arab defeat in the June war with Israel, has committed suicide, the Egyptian Government announced today.

A statement from the National Guidance Ministry, broadcast by Radio Cairo tonight, said the 48-year-old former Vice-President, recently detained on charges of plotting against President Nasser, died yesterday after taking "large quantities of toxic products" on Wednesday and then taking a second dose of poison yesterday.

According to the statement Field-Marshal Amer first poisoned himself as he was to be interrogated at his home by officials investigating the alleged plot.

He took the second dose when recovering from the first, it said, in a Gizeh rest home under the surveillance of two doctors. They noted a sudden worsening of his condition after he had been to the bathroom, and rushed him to hospital, where he died three hours later.

He had hidden the fatal dose of poison under a piece of sticking plaster on his body.

Field-Marshal Amer was named First Vice-President of the United Arab Republic in 1964, and was Deputy Commander of the Egyptian armed forces.

He was suspended by President Nasser after the Arab defeat in June and was later arrested, accused of plotting against the President.—*Agence France Presse.*



Field-Marshal Abdel Hakim Amer.

Tom Little writes:—

The suicide of Field-Marshal Abdel Hakim Amer could have profound repercussions in Egypt, notably in the Army, where he enjoyed a considerable popularity; and although he was under house arrest for plotting when he took his life, the tragedy will undoubtedly have strong emotional impact on President Nasser, the closest of his friends for 30 years, who nevertheless had ordered his detention.

Dismissals resented

It is another side effect of the Arab defeat at the hands of Israel. When the war started on June 4, Hakim Amer was First Vice-President and Deputy Commander of the Armed Forces, President Nasser himself holding the titular position of Commander. The calamitous defeat led Nasser to dismiss him from both offices and to cashier 50 senior soldiers who were almost all Amer's men.

Hakim Amer felt this to be a grave injustice, holding that the destruction of a large part of the Egyptian Air Force in the first Israel air strike made the position of the Army in the Sinai desert, deprived of effective air cover, untenable from the start.

The dismissals were all the harder to bear because they convinced the Egyptian public that the Army was to blame. Soldiers were insulted in the Cairo streets so frequently that they were instructed not to go about in town in uniform except when compelled to do so by duty.

Obituary, page 12.

Gold hunt in BOAC plane

DELHI, Sept. 15.—Customs officers impounded a B.O.A.C. Boeing-707 airliner when it landed here from Bangkok today.

They began a search for more than 24cwt. of contraband gold.

Passengers were transferred to other flights after being told that the search would last at least 24 hours.—*Agence France Presse.*

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Suicide by Egypt army leader.
The Times (London, England),Saturday, Sep 16, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 57048.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS18312496

OBITUARY

F-M HAKIM AMER

Nasser's oldest comrade

Field - Marshal Mohammed Abdel Hakim Amer, who is reported have committed suicide, was President Nasser's number two and close confidant for 15 years. He was 47.

Until he lost his position after the Arab-Israel war in June, his relationship with the President was a complementary one—Nasser the policy maker and Amer the executive.

Amer was placed under house arrest early this month after Egyptian authorities reported unmasking a plot by dismissed military leaders to regain power by force.

His whole career revolved round the army and ran a fairly close parallel to that of Nasser, with whom he has fought, plotted, and governed since they first met in the army.

Amer was promoted to the highest rank in the army—that of marshal—at the early age of 38.

Born on December 11, 1919, in Istal in the Minya province of Egypt, Amer went to the Military Academy in Cairo, where Nasser also trained.

In 1939 he was commissioned as a second lieutenant and graduated from the Staff Officers' College in 1948 to serve in the Palestine war that year. Both Nasser and Amer became key members of the Free Officers' Movement which seized power in 1952 and replaced King Farouk with General Neguib.

Amer became the Director of General Neguib's office at the presidency and was promoted to major general in 1953, a year which aslo saw his participation in the evacuation of British troops from the Canal Zone.

From 1953 to 1958 he was commander-in-chief of Egypt's armed forces and from 1958 to 1962 of the United Arab Republic Forces, during the political union between Syria and Egypt.

During this period he also became nominal head of the joint staff of Egyptian, Saudi Arabian, Jordanian, and Syrian Forces—but this was only a gesture on the part of Egypt's neighbours to demonstrate solidarity after the Suez crisis.

Syria became an important responsibility for Amer, who served as its governor in 1959 until the U.A.R. broke up in 1961.

He continued as second vice-president and Minister of War until it was suddenly announced in 1964 that he was to hold the new post of first vice-president. This carried with it power to rule for 60 days in case anything happened to the president.

Amer's other big task was to deal with the Yemen where Egypt has backed the Republicans against the Saudi Arabian-backed Royalists. As a representative of his Government, Amer travelled widely—particularly to the Soviet Union, which gives aid and arms to the U.A.R.

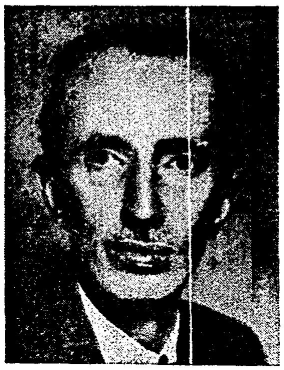
MR E. J. PHELAN

Former ILO director

Mr. Edward Joseph Phelan, Director-General of the International Labour Office from 1941 to 1948, died at his home near Geneva yesterday. He was 79.

Born at Tramore, co. Waterford, Ireland, in 1888, the son of a master mariner, he was educated at St. Francis Xavier's College and Liverpool University, where he took his B.A. and B.Sc. with honours in physics. He joined the British Civil Service in 1911. He began his career in the National Health Insurance Commission, but after a few years was transferred to the Labour Department of the Board of Trade and hence automatically became a member of the staff of the Ministry of Labour when it was formed in 1917.

Here the discerning eye of Harold Butler, Assistant Secretary, noted his capacity, and he was sent to Russia with the first British delegation to visit that country after the Revolution On his return, Butler took him to the



Peace Conference in 1919, and later to the first International Labour Conference, as a result of which the International Labour Office was set up at Geneva.

After this it was almost inevitable that, when Butler became Deputy Director of the I.L.O. under its first Director, Albert Thomas, Phelan should go with him, and in 1920 he became Chief of the Political Division.

Subsequently he had a distinguished career in the I.L.O., becoming Assistant Director in 1933, Deputy Director in 1938; and finally, when J. G. Winant relinquished his post as Director to become United States Ambassador to Great Britain in 1941, Phelan took his place and guided the organization safely through the remaining years of the war, so that it emerged ready to carry on its work as before when peace came—the only remnant of the League of Nations that survived.

Phelan came of Liverpool Irish stock, and to first-rate abilities as an organizer and administrator he added a capacity to influence to

F-M Hakim Amer.
The Times (London, England),Saturday, Sep 16, 1967; pg. 12; Issue 57048.

Category: Obituaries

Gale Document Number:CS204303664

Nationalists offer place to rivals in ruling S Arabia

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Aden, Sept. 17

The National Liberation Front (N.L.F.) today put forward conditions under which it is prepared to work with its rival, the Egyptian-backed Front for the Liberation of Occupied South Yemen (Flosy), for assuming from Britain sovereignty and authority throughout South Arabia and its offshore islands.

The N.L.F.'s move appeared to be in response to the South Arabian Army's demand nine days ago that Flosy and the N.L.F. must decide by next Wednesday whether they were prepared to hold talks with Britain about implementating the United Nations resolutions on the territory's future.

The N.L.F. claimed today that it had taken over the Qaiti sultanate, the largest of the three sultanates in the Eastern Aden Protectorate, without firing a shot. Sultan Ghalib bin Awadh al-Qaiti, the 20-year-old ruler, agreed to abdicate when a military delegation informed him of the N.L.F. takeover as he arrived in a Saudi Arabian ship at Mukalla, the Qaiti capital.

Earlier today, the N.L.F. rejected an invitation from the Arab League to attend tomorrow's conference in Cairo of South Arabian nationalist forces. It expressed "surprise and protest" that the Arab League should have invited the federal rulers and the "stooge" South Arabian League (Sal) and United National Party (U.N.P.).

In a telegram to Abdul Khaliq Hassouna, secretary-general of the Arab League, today, the N.L.F. asked him to recognize the "armed revolutionary forces" as the people's only representatives and to cancel the conference with the sultans and stooge parties.

The N.L.F. said in a statement that it could not possibly agree to the reappearance of these elements on the stage, whatever the new arguments, particularly when the N.L.F. had overthrown them after four years' successful struggle.

Hopeful sign

The N.L.F. said there would be no obstacle to the two nationalist fronts coming together once Flosy determined its attitude towards the traditional rulers and had rejected a settlement or compromise with colonialists. Then the two fronts could together assume power from Britain in accordance with each front's influence provided there was mutual coordination for realizing national unity. The N.L.F. was prepared to met Flosy for achieving that unity in any "liberated" part of South Arabia.

Our Diplomatic Staff write: The declaration by the N.L.F. is one of the most hopeful signs to come from the Aden situation for months. If Flosy take the olive branch and if a settlement is accepted by the British Government, which is due to complete the withdrawal from Aden by January 9, this could mean the end of political murders and the killing of British troops.

The N.L.F. is clearly anxious that any agreement made should be reached on South Arabian soil. Its rejection of an invitation from the Arab League to go to a meeting in Cairo is in keeping with its stance of being the "home-grown" nationalist force, not tied to the external power of Egypt.

The N.L.F. shows signs of wanting to give Flosy a somewhat subordinate role, "in accordance with each front's influence". Certainly the N.L.F. command is unified and its planning cohesive, whereas the Flosy command was diffused by the self-exile of its prominent figures to the Yemen and a loss of contact with the industrial and trade unionist base in Aden.

One result of this was the growth of a secondary leadership in Aden which was not strong enough to prevent the N.L.F. from taking control of several of the trade unions.

In the past few weeks, the N.L.F. has been smoothly and fairly quietly taking over most of the up-country states. This weekend they were said to have taken over Beihan state on the borders of Yemen.

The N.L.F. leaders make it clear that, though there has been no opportunity for ballot-box democracy before the federation becomes independent, they will not countenance any continuation of the power of sultans and shaikhs.

Nationalists offer place to rivals in ruling S Arabia.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Monday, Sep 18, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57049.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67333426



President Nasser and Egyptian Ministers on their way to a Cabinet meeting in Cairo last night.

REFORM OF THE PAPAL COURT

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Rome, Sept. 17

Looking much better after his two-week long illness caused by a prostate condition, the Pope today blessed a big crowd of well-wishers in St. Peter's Square.

The Pope's appearance at his traditional Sunday noon blessing and the announcement yesterday that he had appointed a commission of four cardinals to reform the pontifical court seem to indicate that he is well on his way to recovery.

The Vatican announcement yesterday of the commission for the reform of the papal court, which together with the pontifical chapel numbers 7,000 people, confirms the second important step the Pope has taken towards reforming the principal structures of the Vatican.

Last month he announced a sweeping reform of the Roman Curia, the administrative and doctrinal government of the Church, which will take effect on January 1, 1968.

Scots cardinal

The new commission will be headed by Cardinal Forni, one of the Vatican's leading jurists, and will include Cardinal Heard, of Scotland, Cardinal de Furstenberg, of Holland, and Cardinal dell'Acqua. All are members of the Curia and are said to be among the Pope's main choices for new Curial leaders.

The commission has been charged with the reform of the papal court and the organization of the "prefecture of the Apostolic Palace," the name given to the consolidated organization that will run the papal household.

The reform of the papal court will affect some of the most ancient institutions in the Vatican, including the Swiss Guard, the papal "food-taster" and the "black aristocracy" of ruffed and bedecked Roman nobles that made up the court's various orders. The Pope labelled the court an anachronism in the modern Church in December, 1963, when he promised to reform both the court and the Curia.

The reform of the court could also have financial repercussions for the several thousand nobles belonging to the court, as they have been allowed in the past to buy goods from the Vatican commissary at low prices.

It had been thought that the Pope's illness might have forced a postponement of the reform of the papal court. The appointment of the commission and his appearance today, however, indicate that he is determined the Church's reforms will not be delayed.

Speaking from his apartment window today, he apologized for being unable to receive the many people who had arranged to meet him and be greeted by name several groups who had waited to see him from the square.

Since falling ill on September 4, the Pope has cancelled all appointments except those with his principal advisers to deal with the Church's most urgent affairs. Last Sunday, he appeared in public for the first time, giving his Sunday blessing. He clearly showed signs of his illness, looking drawn and pale and speaking with difficulty.

X-ray tests

Today he was smiling almost continuously and waving to the crowd for several minutes after he finished the blessing.

This week the Pope's three physicians are expected to complete the complex X-ray and radiological tests that will show whether he requires an operation to correct the prostate condition causing an inflammation of the urinary system and whether or not he is strong enough to stand it. He is reported to have said that he would prefer the operation to take place after the Synod of Bishops which begins on September 29 and is expected to end on October 29. The Pope will be 70 on September 26.

Communist to preside at United Nations

FROM OUR UNITED NATIONS CORRESPONDENT
—New York, Sept. 17

When the United Nations General Assembly meets for its 22nd regular session on Tuesday, the only candidate for president will be a communist. He is Mr. Corneliu Manescu, the Foreign Minister of Rumania, and his election is assured.

This will be the first time in history that the General Assembly has been presided over by a communist. In the past, there were communist candidates from Poland and Czechoslovakia (Mr. Jiri Nosek of Czechoslovakia ran twice), but in every case they were defeated by western-backed candidates.

Now, with the big influx of African and Asian countries, the communist block has been campaigning for some time, trading its approval of such candidates as Mr. Pazhwak (Afghanistan), the outgoing president, and Mr. Quaison-Sackey (Ghana), one of his predecessors, against pledges by the Afro-Asians to support a communist this year. With cold war tensions somewhat reduced, the western group has not felt impelled to challenge the communist claim to the presidency.

Before the regular session opens on Tuesday, the Assembly will have to wind up its special emergency session on the Middle East crisis which was stalemated and adjourned on July 21. This will be done on Monday.

Indications are that no fresh progress towards ending the Arab-Israeli confrontation can be made at this stage. Instead, the Assembly will probably adopt a procedural motion remitting the Middle East question to its regular session "as a matter of priority".

That session, it would appear, will be dominated by Middle Eastern, Far Eastern (meaning Vietnam) and African issues—especially racial relations in southern Africa, including Rhodesia.

On Vietnam, the prospect of helpful intervention by either the Assembly or the Security Council appears slim. So long as the Soviet Union adheres to the view that without the approval of Hanoi nothing can be done, nothing is likely to be done.

Britain will be at the receiving end for anti-colonial kicks on such subjects as Aden, Fiji, Gibraltar and perhaps even Anguilla. On these and other issues she will have no option but to keep a stiff upper lip, while explaining the validity of her actions.

Demand for Cairo trial of officers

CAIRO, Sept. 17.—Party workers of the Arab Socialist Union, Egypt's ruling party, told crowds at meetings in Cairo today that Army officers responsible for the Sinai defeat must be brought to public trial.

The city still seemed stunned by the suicide of Field-Marshal Abdel Hakim Amer, the disgraced former Deputy Commander of the Armed Forces, who poisoned himself.

Crowds bombarded the speakers with questions about Field-Marshal Amer's death. President Nasser's authority was never called into doubt at any of the meetings.

Unknown factor

Informed sources said that soon after the Field-Marshal's death was announced on Friday, leaders of the Arab Socialist Union wanted to organize a new wave of mass demonstrations of support for President Nasser. It is said that the President intervened personally and firmly to forestall any such demonstrations.

Observers felt, however, that while the President enjoyed the support of the party and of the crowds at party meetings, the reaction of the Army to Amer's death remained an unknown factor.

Twice since the beginning of the month the semi-official newspaper, *Al Ahram*, has published details of the alleged plot against President Nasser, in which Amer was implicated. Observers felt that the object might be to ensure public antipathy towards the plot's authors and, with them, certain officers.

Rumours denied

Clearly President Nasser wants to be certain that any new attempt to overthrow him will be met by solid popular support for a regime which has recently been going through the darkest days of its existence.

Yesterday afternoon, irritated officials denied foreign rumours that President Nasser had resigned and labelled the stories "pure invention". Press communications were rigorously censored, but today foreign correspondents could communicate freely with their offices abroad.—*Agence France Presse.*

Syria denounces Arab summit

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

BEIRUT, Sept. 17.—The Congress of the ruling Baath Party of Syria reaffirmed tonight the intransigent line that has separated Syria from other Arab states since the conference of Arab chiefs of state in Khartum two weeks ago.

A statement, read on Radio Damascus by Dr. Atassi, Syrian head of state, denounced the Arab "summit" conference as "incapable of meeting the minimum needs of Arab destiny." The statement called for the establishment of a unified "progressive" state by the left-wing regimes of Syria, the United Arab Republic, Algeria and Iraq, thus excluding nine Arab states, most of which are conservative.

The congress rejected any compromise with Israel, expressed full support for the Yemen Republic, as well as the "armed struggle" in Aden and South Arabia and called for the maintenance of the diplomatic, economic and cultural boycott of the United States, Britain and west Germany.—*New York Times News Service.*

CAIRO, Sept. 17.—Flosy announced today that it would boycott the Arab League meeting on South Arabia tomorrow because "elements known to have cooperated with the colonialists" were taking part.—*Associated Press.*

Demand for Cairo trial of officers.
The Times (London, England),Monday, Sep 18, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57049.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS84766002

Syria hard line stays

Syria has announced its opposition to resumption of Arab oil exports to Britain, the U.S. and west Germany. This was the first official announcement of the Syrian Government's policy to the recent Arab summit conference in Khartum which Syria boycotted.

This is a clear threat to the oil which Iraq pumps across Syria to the Banias terminal. Shipments have not yet been resumed to the banned countries, although after Khartum it seemed only a matter of time.

Syria condemned the Arab summit conferences and said they were not the right way of dealing with Arab problems. It advocated the establishment of a socialist base to become eventually political unity between what it described as progressive Arab states named as Syria, Algeria, Iraq and Egypt and condemned "reactionary" Arab regimes as serving imperialist interests. Syria, which according to observers, is isolating itself from the general modefate Arab trend, advocated armed struggle against Israel and denounced political solutions approved at the Khartum summit.

Our Correspondent in Rome reports:—

The eight member nations of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec)—which does not include Syria — gave their "full support" to Libya and Iraq's request to raise posted prices at the thirteenth Opec conference in Rome.

The announcement stated that in the case of Libya, the conference "took note of the two separate issues involved, namely, the unjustifiably low level of the original postings, and the adjustments that are appropriate in the light of the current situation".

A "consultative meeting of the heads of delegations" will meet on October 5 in Taif, Saudi Arabia, to "review progress made on matters considered by the conference". Opec's fourteenth conference will meet in Vienna on November 27.

Wall St has another active day

Wall Street prices went farther ahead yesterday in another active day. Profit-taking, however, checked the rise shortly before the close.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 5.26 to 938.74, its best level since April, 1966. This index has now jumped 31.20 in the past six trading days.

Syria hard line stays.
The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Sep 19, 1967; pg. 19; Issue 57050.

Category: Business and Finance

Gale Document Number:CS319253811

Rivals in S Arabia hope to unite

Britain as common enemy

From NICHOLAS HERBERT—Beirut, Sept. 19

South Arabia's two nationalist rivals recently held direct talks in Cairo but could not agree on the composition of an interim Government.

This was stated here today by Mr. Abdul Qawee Mackawee, the secretary-general of the Egyptian-backed Front for the Liberation of Occupied South Yemen (Flosy), who said his organization's forces in South Arabia had been attacked by British jets which left areas held by the National Liberation Front (N.L.F.) untouched.

Flosy's belief was that Britain was trying to foment strife and bloodshed between the nationalist groups so that a " third force " of Sultans and other stooges could be introduced.

If this appears a rather old-fashioned reading at this stage, Mr. Mackawee has not been in South Arabia for many months—a fact he explained today by saying that he was regarded as a terrorist.

When I last saw Mr. Mackawee at Taiz in the Yemen, less than six months ago, he was denying the N.L.F.'s very existence. It was a different story at today's press conference. He praised the patriotism of many N.L.F. members as being beyond doubt, but he complained of a campaign by the B.B.C. and Aden radio which, he said, was designed to build up the N.L.F. to the exclusion of Flosy.

While carefully not impugning the N.L.F.'s motives, Mr. Mackawee expressed concern lest they be deceived by Britain's cunning. Flosy realized, he said, that national unity of the revolutionary forces was more necessary now than ever, but he gave no positive answer to the federal army's call for the two groups to unite and hold talks with Britain. Mr. Mackawee said that a formal reply to this ultimatum, which expires tomorrow, had been sent, but he declined repeatedly to disclose what it said.

Nor was it clear from his other remarks exactly what Flosy's position would be. He said Flosy had told the N.L.F. three weeks ago that it was willing " to continue discussions about ways of fulfilling national unity ", but had received no reply yet. The initiative had come from Flosy, not from the army, he said. Later he added that he hoped the two rivals could unite against a common enemy—Britain.

Mr. Mackawee then disclosed that, at meetings held recently in Cairo between leaders of Flosy and the N.L.F., a disagreement had arisen over representation in a national assembly. The N.L.F. had proposed a fifty-fifty division, while Flosy insisted on having a two-thirds majority representation. It was agreed that a new name would have to be found for a merged party, but what it should be was undecided.

He claimed that Flosy enjoyed mass support in most areas of South Arabia and was backed by Egypt, Algeria, Iraq, and Syria. In spite of this it was willing to cooperate with the N.L.F. He wondered how the N.L.F., which had been unable to make progress when it had financial and material support from outside, was now able to do so. For him the answer had to be British perfidy.

Rivals in S Arabia hope to unite.
From NICHOLAS HERBERT-

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Sep 20, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57051.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67333428

REPLY ON YEMEN GAS

Mr. Duncan Sandys, Conservative M.P. for Streatham, yesterday made public an exchange of letters between Mr. George Brown, the Foreign Secretary, and himself on Egypt's use of poison gas in Yemen.

Mr. Brown, in a letter dated September 15, recalled that at their meeting on July 26 he undertook to consult with like-minded Governments about ways of stopping the United Arab Republic's use of gas in Yemen. He wrote:—

> We have now consulted a number of Governments to see if they are prepared to initiate action at the United Nations, but we have unfortunately been quite unsuccessful. While all the Governments we have approached deplore the U.A.R.'s use of poison gas, they all seem to feel they have compelling reasons of national interest for not publicly taking the lead in censuring the U.A.R.
>
> The situation has now been very greatly altered by the agreement reached between King Faisal and President Nasser at Khartum providing for the withdrawal of Egyptian forces from the Yemen and the cessation of all Saudi military aid. There are reliable reports that the withdrawal of Egyptian forces is to be completed within three months and preparations are already reported at Hodeida for their movement through that port. . . .
>
> In the light of this, I think the chances of getting any Government to attack the U.A.R. in the United Nations for its use of poison gas in the Yemen are nil. Indeed, to raise the matter now would almost certainly be counter-productive. I therefore consider, and I hope you will agree, that it is not appropriate for me to continue my efforts at this time to have this issue raised at the United Nations. We shall have achieved our purpose by the departure of the U.A.R. forces from the Yemen.

Mr. Sandys yesterday wrote to Mr. Brown to say that he did not agree with the Foreign Secretary's views. He said: "As a warning to others in future conflicts, it is essential that the United Nations should be called upon to condemn these acts of barbarism."

Reply On Yemen Gas.
The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Sep 20, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57051.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67464500

149 HELD OVER PLOT TO REINSTATE AMER

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Cairo, Sept. 19

The Cairo newspaper *Al Ahram* said today that 149 people were being held for questioning over the plot to reinstate Field-Marshal Abdel Hakim Amer, who committed suicide last Thursday after his dismissal as Vice-President, and Deputy Commander of the armed forces.

The paper denied "malicious" foreign reports, quoting Israel sources, that 70,000 Egyptians had been arrested since the Arab-Israel war and that further arrests were being made at the rate of 1,000 a day.

The official total of detainees, discussed at a Cabinet meeting on Sunday, was 181, the paper said.

Those involved in the plot to reinstate Field Marshal Amer included 43 officers, five "honorary officers", 16 non-commissioned officers and 24 Army clerks.

Also under questioning were 17 civilians, including several relatives of Field Marshal Amer, and 44 peasants who had been brought to guard his villa from a farm owned by one of his brothers.

Since June 5, 31 officers had been detained for questioning on the reasons for Egypt's military setback. They included Air Marshal Muhammad Sidky Mahmoud, the former Air Force commander, General Gamal Afify, former Air Force chief of staff, and General Ismail Labib, former chief of air defence.

Jerusalem blast

JERUSALEM, Sept. 19.—An explosion tonight rocked the printing shop of an Israel religious newspaper a few hundred yards from the Old City, formerly Jordanian, where a strike was attempted today against "Israeli occupation". Seven were injured.—*Agence France Presse.*

149 Held Over Plot To Reinstate Amer.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT-

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Sep 20, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57051.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68906292

Wolfson-GUS firms get big business in Israel's boom times

From DAVID SPANIER—Tel Aviv

For all its small size and population, Israel is a better customer of Britain than its four Arab neighbours—Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon, put together.

Imports from Britain this year, excluding military expenditure, will probably reach £60m. In recent years, indeed, Israel was buying more from Britain than either Russia or Japan.

In this happy state of affairs, a leading role has been taken by Sir Isaac Wolfson's companies. In fact one cannot go very far in Israel without coming across a Wolfson enterprise.

Wolfson interests in Israel may be divided between those concerning Sir Isaac himself directly, and those connected with the Great Universal Stores group.

In the first category comes Paz, of which Sir Isaac is chairman, bought from Shell in 1955, which now controls about 50 per cent of all oil distribution, garages, and other outlets.

Being a private company, Paz's figures are not published. Sir Isaac's trust, the Israel Government and American interests each controls one-third. Sir Isaac also has an investment company with a stake in most of the oil development aspects of the country.

A further small but highly successful offshoot of the Shell purchase is Pazchem, of which Sir Isaac is chairman, and his trust owns one-third. This company manufactures insecticides, pesticides and household requisites.

There is also the Wolfson Clore Mayer Property Corporation, a public company in which Sir Isaac has one quarter control, equal with Mr. Clore, Mr. Mayer and the Israel Government. This enterprise, which has concentrated on real estate development, has been suffering from the general slowdown of the Israel economy. It found itself committed in too many ventures when the recession overtook Israel. Profits before tax fell by nearly half, for the year ending March 31, to £1670,000, and on Sir Issaac's recommendation as chairman a dividend was not paid.

The corporation's achievements include construction of the Tel-Aviv municipality building, for which it floated a debenture in London, and Shalom Tower, a soaring office block in downtown Tel-Aviv, which at 32 floors is the highest building in the Middle East. It owns the municipal building which is rented to the city and owns half of Shalom Tower.

Wolfson Clore Mayer also has a 25 per cent interest in Israel's first department store, which has special arrangements to import from Britain. A recent British fortnight was a huge success and curiously enough, the other big success was an Arab fortnight.

Turning to the second category of Wolfson interests, Great Universal Stores has a series of investments in Israel. Principal among these is a third controlling share in G.U.S.-Rassco (in which Wolfson Clore Mayer also has an interest), an up and coming investment group, of which Sir Isaac is chairman.

It has interests in a company which builds air conditioning units, which already has a small subsidiary in Spain, a share in a company which builds telephone exchanges, which imports substantially from Britain, and interests in other companies manufacturing, among other things, street lighting, fractional motors and fans, carpets and synthetic materials, spare parts for cars, and lace and embroidery.

G.U.S. also holds a 20 per cent share in the Export Bank through G.U.S. Israel, the holding company for all the group's interests in Israel. Finally, yet another G.U.S. enterprise in Israel is a travel agency, Global of London, which promotes tourism to and from Britain.

In August the Israel economy started to recover after the war. Tourism is rising and the inhabitants of Gaza and the west bank, though consuming only one-fifth as much as Israelis, should help strengthen economic demand as time goes on. All in all, the Wolfson operation in Israel looks set fair.

Wolfson-GUS firms get big business in Israel's boom times.
From DAVID SPANIER-Tel Aviv

The Times (London, England),Friday, Sep 22, 1967; pg. 20; Issue 57053.

Category: Business and Finance

Gale Document Number:CS336555318

Cease-fire by rival Aden parties

From NICHOLAS HERBERT

BEIRUT, SEPT. 25

South Arabia's two rival nationalist parties, the National Liberation Front (N.L.F.) and the Front for the Liberation of Occupied South Yemen (Flosy), have called for a cease-fire in the territory, Cairo radio announced tonight.

The two groups also agreed to meet in Cairo on October 3 to discuss the formation of a caretaker Government that would accept independence from Britain.

A statement to this effect was broadcast by the radio in the names of Abdul Qawee Mackawee, Flosy's secretary-general, and Faisal Abdul Latif, of the N.L.F. It said the cease-fire should begin at 3 a.m. G.M.T. tomorrow.

ADEN, Sept. 25.—The South Arabian Army Command tonight welcomed the agreement, and said it would be happy to send a representative to the talks in Cairo on October 3 if it received an invitation from the Egyptian Government.—*Reuter.*

Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes: The prospect that a coalition government will now be formed between Flosy and the N.L.F. was welcomed at the Foreign Office last night, though any welcome is hedged with caution, in case the reports are not confirmed.

Yemen troops go

CAIRO, Tuesday morning.—Egypt has begun to withdraw its troops from Yemen in accordance with the agreement reached with Saudi Arabia at the Arab summit conference in Khartum last August, *Al Ahram* reported today. The newspaper said that evacuation would be completed by December 15.—*Agence France Presse.*

Cease-fire by rival Aden parties.
From NICHOLAS HERBERT

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Sep 26, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 57056.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS17657146

Officers to face trial in Cairo

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

CAIRO, SEPT. 25

Officers responsible for Egypt's losses in the Arab-Israel war of last June are to face trial after investigations are completed. Reporting this today, the newspaper *Al Ahram* said a special committee had been formed at the highest military and scientific level to conduct the investigations.

The newspaper added that those who had plotted to take over the supreme command of the armed forces, so as to reinstate by force Field Marshal Abdel Hakim Amer, the former Deputy Supreme Commander, on August 27 would also be brought to justice, as well as "deviators" of the Intelligence Service.

Officers to face trial in Cairo.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Sep 26, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57056.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68775226

TIMES PAST

THE TIMES

PRINTING HOUSE SQUARE, LONDON, E.C.4. TELEPHONE: 01-236 2000

RUSSIA MOVES SOUTH

Russia reentered Middle Eastern politics with a bang, twelve years ago tomorrow, when COLONEL NASSER announced his first purchase of communist arms, from Czechoslovakia. Things have never been the same since. Where once the Middle East was firmly under western (chiefly British) control, now Russia is the great neighbouring power, and her influence is growing while Britain, still keeping her commercial interests in oil, is withdrawing militarily. It is not quite correct to speak of a reversal of alliances. Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and the Persian Gulf were not Britain's allies, they were clients or satellites. Algeria was a French colony and Syria a battleground of French and British influence. The six-day war has reduced several of these countries, notably Egypt and Syria, dangerously close to the status of Russian client states. The customers for oil have an important influence through their markets, but only Russia can restore the Arab armies and air forces, only Russia can supply the technical help, the credit and the political support essential for the regimes' survival. Above all, Russia is free from the Anglo-American commitment to Israel.

This is gratifying to the Russians. It is not directly profitable, however. Egypt and Syria are colossal economic liabilities to their friends and their impetuousness makes them unreliable as associates. They have an insatiable appetite for modern armaments—and Sinai is still littered with the ruins of the best Russia can produce. The oil-rich shaikhs still look to the United States, and Russia has the poorer Arab countries at her side. But no one would describe the Syrian road to socialism as particularly assured, and the various kites PRESIDENT NASSER has set flying recently in a western direction must give the Russians cause for thought. They are, of course, aware that the Arabs were not altogether satisfied with the Russians' performance last June, coming to the rescue not at Suez but at the United Nations.

No wonder the Russians also devote themselves to cultivating the northern tier, the non-Arab Islamic countries which the late JOHN FOSTER DULLES once considered an impregnable barrier to communism. In a way, he was probably justified. It is still hard to visualize Turkey, for instance, ever turning to pray at sunset in the direction of the socialist motherland and the shrine in Red Square. On the other hand, it is entirely possible to envisage a development of economic and cultural cooperation and even cordial political relations between Turkey and Russia.

Indeed, the Turkish PRIME MINISTER is in Moscow at the moment, as is PRESIDENT AYUB. Neither of them can be accused of harbouring any sympathy for communism, nor have the Russians any illusions on this count. Soviet relations with Afghanistan are probably the model. Russians would undoubtedly prefer "socialist" neighbours, but, failing that, they are quite ready to cooperate with countries friendly to them and with whom they can trade profitably. They naturally prefer that their neighbours should not take too active a part in anti-Soviet alliances, and thus the decline of Cento, and of the eastern wing of Nato, is at once cause and consequence of the detente between Russia and "the northern tier".

Russian interest in the Middle East goes back at least a century and is a direct result of geographical propinquity. Generally speaking their present position is not inimical to western interests. It is not in Britain's, or anyone's, interests that Egypt should sink into an Indonesian chaos, and someone has to pay for the Aswan dam. Russian aid is as valuable as American. On the other hand, Russian political influence in an area of western oil supplies is at the least disquieting. It is, however, no longer a question of preventing Russian influence but rather one of seeing how best the western powers and Russia can help to keep the peace in the region. An agreement to cut down arms shipments would be useful, for a start.

Russia Moves South.
The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Sep 26, 1967; pg. 9; Issue 57056.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS151219514

TIMES PAST
THE TIMES
PRINTING HOUSE SQUARE, LONDON, E.C.4. TELEPHONE: 01-236 2000

Embargoes and the facts of life

British trade interests are not, it is claimed, likely to be much affected by the embargo on ships trading with Cuba that was declared by the Organization of American States on Sunday. The O.A.S., adopting its familiar, friendly attitude to the United States, agreed to blacklist ships which no sensible industrialist would use anyway. The companies trading with Cuba use ships from, say, communist countries; trading with the free American world they use other lines. Shipping companies—most directly involved by the ban—long ago made their accommodation with American sensibilities: with scarcely a backward glance, they chose the lush American market rather than trade with Cuba.

What purpose, then, has been served by this O.A.S. resolution? Business continues, essentially unhindered; the Cubans survive, in spite of the *cordon sanitaire* which is being constructed around them. But it does provide Congressmen with something to throw back at the critics who complain that they do nothing while the enemies of America gnaw at its heart.

It is possible that, somewhere, someone really believes that he is proposing an embargo that will achieve something—as opposed to providing himself with a weapon to defend a domestic position that has become politically vulnerable. But there is little evidence to support this. Certainly nothing in the recent proliferation of embargoes—it has become a favourite tool of international politics—would lead one to think so.

At one time trade sanctions against South Africa were the favourite. But even while the noise was at its height, some of the most fervent advocates were trading: Egypt, importing beef; west African countries, importing consumer goods. Meanwhile the countries whose support was essential—Britain and the United States—held back. Perhaps part at least of their reluctance came from the knowledge that their sacrifice would swiftly become someone else's gain. For there would be no reluctance at all in other countries to take their place. The French, Italians and Germans are said to throng the streets of Salisbury.

Trade, the desire to make money, washes around embargoes like the sea around a sand castle. When the Arab states imposed an embargo on exports of oil to Britain, Germany and the United States, did their fellow members in the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries join in to make the ban a crippling one? They increased production to make up the shortfall. Did the world, bristling with righteous indignation, join in to force Rhodesia into the ground? Zambia, its black neighbour, admitted it could not afford to. In the end, it seems that no one can "afford to" pass up a chance to make money.

Even where an embargo has the apparently unanimous support of the developed countries of the west, the trade flows on. The State Department bans the export of a wide range of goods to communist countries on the grounds that they are strategic. (Khrushchev once commented that trouser buttons are strategic materials.) But it has been unable to stop the increasing flow of western technology—chemical plants, synthetic rubber plants, fibre plants. And on the lists of strategically embargoed materials there are inconsistencies which deserve no one's respect. British manufacturers are not allowed to sell ball bearings to Russia; Russian machines for making ball bearings are on sale in this country.

But this is a "mature" embargo. Passions may erupt spasmodically in the United States over issues like the Export-Import Bank financing exports of machine tools to Russia via Fiat. They cannot have the freshness of passions erupting over some interesting, new situation. (Not that they are different in principle—America disapproves of communist regimes much as Britain disapproves of Rhodesia.) And small countries, like big ones, have found that they can provide an easy way out of a tough political situation.

The fact is trade embargoes don't work. They are an admirable means of creating the maximum political effect while reducing to a minimum risk of being called upon to make substantial sacrifices. They also spread the load, for by putting other countries in the spot where they stand accused of supporting repressive and tyrannous regimes if they continue trading, support is conscripted. They are essentially the weapon of a weak country. (America has not called upon the United Nations to support trade sanctions against North Vietnam.) Or they are the weapon of a country in a weak position. Either way, they are an admission that the issue will never be put to a test.

Embargoes and the facts of life.
The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Sep 26, 1967; pg. 21; Issue 57056.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS352546106

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MORE PEACE PLANS

U THANT said on September 19 that peace in the Middle East depended on "an end to incitement to hatred, the achievement of calm, and a recourse to reason". As well cry for the moon. There is an aura of unreality about all the various peace plans which have been put forward, by PRESIDENT TITO, by U THANT himself and, yesterday, by the Israel FOREIGN MINISTER. They all contain sensible points (though in MARSHAL TITO'S case four months too late), but are all vitiated by the simple fact that even a return to the uncomfortable prewar stalemate would be possible only if the Arabs recognized their defeat, or if Israel agreed to give up all the fruits of her victory.

The chief of those gains is national security. For the first time since Israel was established, with the consent of the great powers and the United Nations, Israel is mistress of her destiny and of her own frontiers. In spite of MR. BROWN'S pious statement that a state should not be allowed to extend its frontiers as a result of war, Israel is likely to stay in occupation of her conquests unless a permanent peace is established in the Middle East. She cannot be expected to do otherwise. Four months ago, the Arabs set out deliberately to challenge Israel, moving armies to her frontiers and closing the Gulf of Aqaba. Israel took up the challenge, and the Arabs are now paying forfeit.

"The achievement of calm and a recourse to reason" seems as far off as ever. There is something admirable in the Arabs' total refusal to admit the facts—the Israel Army on the Jordan, on the Suez Canal, and within twenty miles of Damascus. Of such attitudes are martyrs made. Were the Arabs reasonable people, they would accept the terms MR. EBAN offered them yesterday. Nevertheless, though the proposals are doomed to scornful rejection by the Arabs, they are none the less worth examining. It is the first time that an Israel Minister, speaking for the Government, has proposed the demilitarization of Sinai and an economic union of Israel, Jordan and Lebanon.

The first point, in a rational world, would be immediately acceptable. Egypt can have Sinai back, including its oil wells, it can reopen the Suez Canal, if it signs a peace treaty and agrees to Sinai being demilitarized and watched over by the United Nations. Nothing was said about Gaza, but in negotiation Egypt could reasonably ask Israel to leave it. Free navigation for Israel ships through the Suez Canal and the Gulf of Aqaba is implicit in the call for a treaty. As minimum terms, these are entirely reasonable, and Israel can fairly blame the Egyptians for rejecting them.

The proposal for a sort of Levantine Common Market is much less precise. Does it mean Jordan would get back all her lost territory? Would the West Bank, also, have to be demilitarized? It is quite clear which partner would be dominant in the triumvirate. This is the sort of arrangement which would ensure lasting peace in the Middle East, if it were ever accepted and if it survived its infancy. Palestine was partitioned in a flurry of such suggestions. Again, as minimum terms for a peace treaty with Jordan, these proposals are admirably sensible.

The missing link is the obscurity of MR. EBAN'S remarks about the refugees. Presumably what he has in mind is that an international effort would be made to settle them all on farms or in factories in Jordan or the Sinai peninsula. It is just possible, though not probable, that the Arabs might come to accept such a settlement if the refugees that wanted to were also permitted to return to their former homes in Israel. If Jews are permitted to return to Hebron, Arabs should be permitted to return to Jaffa. Otherwise, the proposal is too one-sided.

Some special status would have to be devised for Jerusalem. Israel is set on keeping the Old City, but it should be possible to combine Israel's control of Jerusalem as her capital city with special rights for the Jordanians there, with the headquarters of the "Mediterranean Community" possibly on Mount Scopus. But these are all paper plans, which have no chance now of being accepted by the countries concerned. The final alternative may be either for the United Nations to impose some such solution on the Arabs, or for the present situation to continue indefinitely.

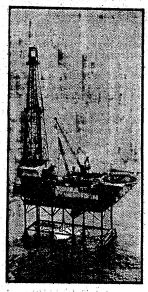
More Peace Plans.
The Times (London, England),Thursday, Sep 28, 1967; pg. 9; Issue 57058.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS151219516



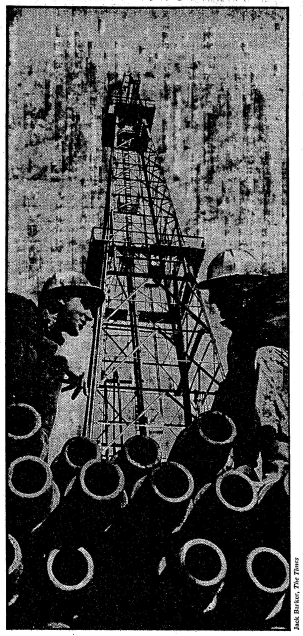
Withdrawing the drillpipe from the sea bed.



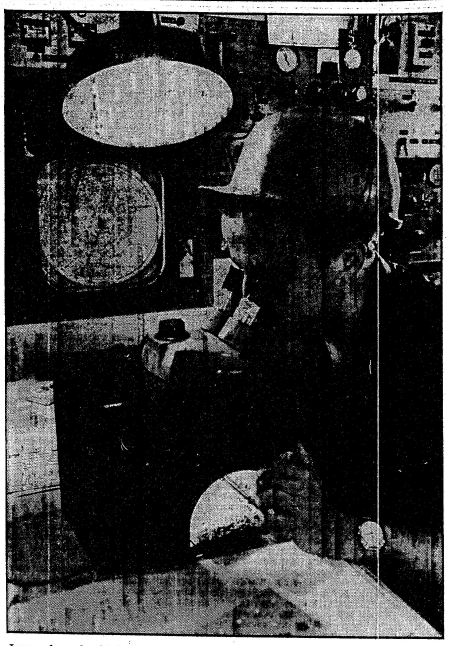
Fixed drilling platform.



Cogwheel bit apparatus.



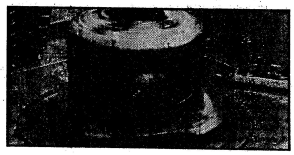
Detached sections of drillpipe.



Logger who works with the laboratory geologist on earth strata samples.



A platform foreman relaxes.



Drill spinning at high speed.

NOW OIL INDUSTRY HAS NEW FRONTIER

by a Special Correspondent

THE offshore search for and production of oil and natural gas is the oil industry's new frontier. The industry has always been in the forefront of scientific and technological research, and there is no segment of its operations in which engineering design and techniques are changing so rapidly as in its offshore operations.

The reasons are straightforward. In the last decade and a half more oil companies, both private and state concerns, have entered into exploration and production generally in an increasing number of countries.

It is not, as some would have it, a shortage of oil on land which has driven the industry offshore but largely a shortage of land areas in which to explore.

More difficult

All this expansion has made unlicensed open territory in high-prospect areas onshore more difficult to come by. The industry needs to keep pace with the increasing rate of demand for its products throughout the world at a rate of over 7 per cent annually. It has to look to new, unexplored, areas to meet this requirement. The greatest of these is the 70 per per cent of the earth's surface covered by seas and oceans.

Drilling in marine areas first took place in 1938 off the Louisiana coast, and the United States Gulf of Mexico waters remained almost the only scene of offshore drilling in the world until the past 10 years or so. Now exploration is taking place on the continental shelf off every continent—involving more than 100 companies in over 60 countries—and important oil or gas-producing areas have been established also in the Persian Gulf, North Sea, and Caspian, and off Borneo, Australia, Alaska, Egypt, and Nigeria, as well as both the west and south coasts of the United States. About 16 per cent of the world's crude oil is obtained from beneath the seas.

A corresponding advance in offshore technology has taken place because of the moves into deeper waters—waters with greatly varying weather, tide and sea bottom conditions. As recently as 12 years ago the maximum water depth for drilling was just over 100ft. Today floating drilling vessels are making holes in depths of up to 630ft. and this will progress rapidly as drilling rigs in the next three or four years move out into the deeper waters of the continental slope.

Petroleum scientists are looking to a time when drilling and producing in depths of up to 3,000ft. and more will be commonplace. To this end the industry has already invested approximately £100m. in pure research into oceanography — equipment research and development, wave and tidal investigations, meteorological studies, marine biology besides its normal operational research.

As well as expenditure on research there are the high costs of operations in water-covered areas. Gulf of Mexico operational costs now run at about $2m. a day. In the nine years of operation in the ice-bound Cook Inlet of Alaska the bill has reached well over £200m. And in the North Sea expenditure on a drilling operation averages out at about £5 a minute; the office support element back in the company headquarters is not included in this.

With such high costs involved—three or five times the equivalent job onshore—there has to be a more than ordinary degree of care in preliminary investigations of a prospective area. A particularly scrupulous weighing up is called for of the chances of finding large accumulations of oil or natural gas in the subterranean structures that may have been indicated by the geologist and geophysicist. With the high cost of setting up production installations miles from land and the building of the necessary pipelines over the seabed to the coast, deposits of either oil or gas have to be large to make their exploitation economic.

The main weapon in the armoury of the offshore explorer is seismic geophysics. Once the company has obtained a licence to explore in waters off a country—this can frequently involve a payment of several millions of pounds—the first move of importance is to start seismic surveys.

Search narrowed

These narrow down the search by indicating the most promising locations on which to drill by giving a picture of the types and positions of the rock structures below the seabed. Small explosive charges are set off just below the water's surface and recording instruments measure the energy impulses that are reflected back.

Two vessels are used, one firing the explosion, the other towing a cable along which is strung a line of seismometers or geophones to record the impulses. From the seismic profiles obtained sub-surface structure maps are compiled to sum up the information available from which the choice is made of the spot to sink the drill.

Meanwhile, a complicated supply organization is being set up on the coast. A site has to be chosen for an operating base—a location on the coast with deep-water sheltered access to dock facilities.

If possible the base location must be close to a centre of population—a port for preference—in order to get the necessary staff, to take advantage of public utilities, to be close to rail and road access and to have such service facilities as shipping, marine repair and victualling firms close at hand. All this is possible in an operating area such as the North Sea. In remote undeveloped parts of the world it has to be set up by the company itself at immense cost.

Warehouses and stores must be stocked with a vast inventory of equipment and materials so that a replacement part can be supplied at short notice. International companies providing specialized services and equipment usually set up on the supply base; most items of specialized drilling equipment are not produced in Britain and usually have to be brought from the United States.

Transport must be arranged and the drilling rigs have to be chartered from the big contractors who almost always own and operate the 150 or so rigs now active around the world. Few rigs are today owned by oil companies, for it is more economic to take on a contractor's rig. Platforms and crews are chartered for one or several holes, or alternatively for a certain period of time. The types of rigs now existing present an astonishing range of different types of size, design and capability. With the geographical spread of activity they are beginning to be produced tailor-made with specific design characteristics for specific offshore areas. They cost £5,000 to £6,000 a day to operate. Holes are drilled to as much as 20,000ft. and each one costs between £500,000 and £1m.

When and if there is a discovery it is only the beginning. Tests of different kinds have to approve the well and the oil or gas obtained from it to gauge whether it is a commercial discovery. With a positive reaction, other wells are drilled—stepout holes to delineate the area and shape of the petroleum-bearing structure.

Often one or more special fixed drilling platforms will be built and cemented into the seabed to drill these holes and free the mobile rig for further exploration. Then again the lists of new tasks begin; leases to be signed with governments and other companies, sale prices to be negotiated, oil and gas separation units to be installed on the field and pipelines to be laid and buried on the seabed to a coast, scores of miles away at something like £90,000 a mile.

Reception terminals and storage have to be built on the coast and pipeline connexions made with refineries, or gas works inland. And then the drillers move on, perhaps to the other side of the globe, in what is one of the toughest, most costly and highly professional operations in the world.

WEST'S GROUP

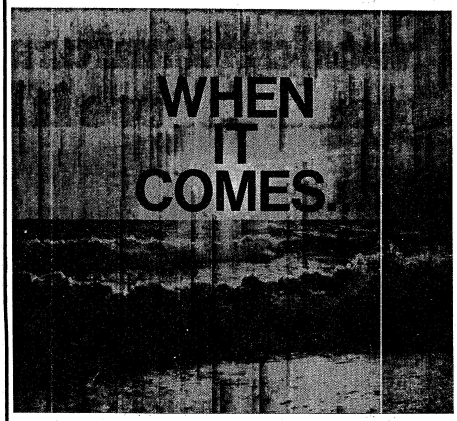
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Now Oil Industry Has New Frontier.
by a Special Correspondent

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Oct 04, 1967; pg. IV; Issue 57063.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS537095492

ISRAEL'S OFFER ON SUEZ CANAL

Reopening before peace

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Tel Aviv, Oct. 4

Mr. Levi Eshkol, the Prime Minister, said today that Israel was willing to negotiate the reopening of international navigation through the Suez Canal without waiting for an overall Israel-Arab settlement.

In an interview in the evening newspaper *Maariv*, Mr. Eshkol said "We shall not oppose the reopening of the canal to navigation, on the clear understanding that it means navigation for all nations, including Israel".

However, he indicated later that, if Egypt insisted on barring Israel vessels, an arrangement could be made to open the canal to all ships apart from Israel and Egyptian ones.

Mr. Eshkol said it had been made clear to President Nasser of the United Arab Republic, through General Bull, the chief United Nations truce supervisor in the region, that Israel was willing to accept such an arrangement.

The Prime Minister was somewhat derisive of reported British pressures for a slight withdrawal to open the way for peace negotiations. "They have received from us a 'No' with a capital 'N'", he said. "The United States would concern me more With England, after all, we have had more serious and difficult disputes. What can England do to us?

"Of course she might have some influence on the United States. The United States is a more serious matter but I have no fears."

Mr. Eshkol also disclosed that Israel had received feelers from King Husain of Jordan through go-betweens. The King had wanted to find out if there was any basis for negotiations, and Israel's answer was that conditions would be discussed only directly at the conference table.

Belgians tell of trap for Tshombe

BRUSSELS, Oct. 4.—Mr. Moise Tshombe, the former Prime Minister of the Congo, was lured into a trap by the offer of a leading role in an imaginary organization, the two Belgians who were kidnapped with him said today.

The two Belgians, Mr. Charles Sigal and Mr. Marcel Hambursin, were released by the Algerian authorities last week. In an interview with the Brussels weekly, *Pourquoi Pas*, they said the trap was set by Mr. Bodenan, the Frenchman alleged to have hi-jacked Mr. Tshombe's aircraft.

Mr. Sigal, an ex-lawyer, said Mr. Bodenan spoke to him about plans of a Swiss organization for an all-Africa humanist welfare movement. One of its "projects" was to store harvest surpluses and then re-sell them in such a way as to stabilize

Israel's Offer On Suez Canal.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Oct 05, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57064.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS85421381

Links with Israel under strain

Britain seen as unreliable

By DAVID SPANIER, who recently returned from Jerusalem

Anglo-Israel relations are on a downhill slope. Just how far they have slipped is shown by Israel's sharp rejection of the British suggestion for "a slight withdrawal" from occupied territory on the Suez Canal, and the dismissive tone of comments on British policy made by Mr. Levi Eshkol, the Prime Minister, as reported yesterday.

Israel was upset by Britain's attitude recently at the United Nations, but hardly surprised. Since the six-day war, Israel Government circles have reluctantly come to the conclusion that British support is not to be relied on. Relations between the two countries are likely to get still worse when the time comes for voting in the current United Nations session.

Yet Israel feeling for Britain, in spite of the still bitter memory of the last days of the mandate under Ernest Bevin, goes extremely deep—deeper perhaps than for any other western nation.

It is an affinity which springs from each country wanting, in its different approaches, the same kind of world. But it is also coloured by another phenomenon: the way the Israelis have caught the curious British talent of forming a new friendship with the people they were formerly struggling against.

Perfidious Albion

The present trouble, as Israel sees it, comes from the suspicion that perfidious Albion is up to her old tricks again. And this despite the fact that just before the war Britain was a firm supporter of Israel's rights in the Gulf of Aqaba. At that time Britain was one of the countries who seemed ready to back some kind of joint action by the maritime powers.

But after the war Britain's support began to look more equivocal in Israel eyes. The country was profoundly shaken by Britain's attitude in the United Nations, not so much the vote against Israel on Jerusalem as the hue and cry that went with it. (The United States was far more understanding.)

Moreover, ordinary Israelis have more than a passing doubt about the motives of Mr. George Brown, the Foreign Secretary. They think, rightly or wrongly, that the reverse side of his understandable pro-Arab sentiment is anti-Israel.

It is noticed that hardly a single gesture of support or encouragement has emerged from Whitehall since the war. On the contrary, there have been intimations of difficulties over arms supplies.

But this is a surface irritation. The basic reason why Israel mistrusts British policy is that it is felt that Britain is so prone to repeat the mistake of following short-term interests in the Middle East at the cost of longer-term stability.

The collapse of the British position in Aden serves to reinforce a commonly held view that Britain somehow lacks practical understanding of the Arab mind. For all the heritage of T. E. Lawrence romanticism, or perhaps because of it, Britain is felt to overestimate appeasing policies and to underestimate the value of taking a firm line in relations with Arab countries.

In the present context, Britain's short-term interest lies in reopening the Suez Canal. On this matter, Israel fully appreciates that Britain is carrying one of the heaviest burdens by the canal's closure.

A parallel was recently drawn by Mr. Abba Eban, Israel Foreign Minister, between the Arab embargo on oil and the closing of the canal. The oil suppliers soon came to see that it was in their best interest to resume the sale of oil to Britain and other countries. In a similar way, in the Israel view, the users of the canal should not be too panicky about getting it reopened.

Lost chances

In the past there were several occasions, so it is believed, when British short-term interest prevailed over the truer interest of a lasting settlement. Indeed right after the armistice agreement of 1949, when there was a chance of King Abdullah of Jordan making a peace treaty with Israel, Britain is thought to have failed to give the necessary support, despite the advice of the then Ambassador to Israel.

Three times Britain passed up the chance of helping to secure equal rights of navigation for all on the Suez Canal. In 1951, after the Security Council resolution, when Britain was still a big power in the Middle East, follow up action was not taken.

In 1954, when the last British base was evacuated under American pressure, the idea was allowed to take hold that Egypt would be ready for negotiations only after the British had gone.

In 1957, when the canal was reopened with the blessing of the United Nations, but without the guarantee of free passage for all, another opportunity was missed. What Israel fears now is that Britain, in her natural desire to save her own economy, will once again let slip or condone Israel's legitimate interests, which tie in with securing a stable Middle East.

Point of stability

For all this, Israel does have a special relationship with Britain. The fiftieth anniversary of the Balfour Declaration on November 2 will no doubt be the occasion for a full-scale evaluation of this relationship.

Israel sees herself as the one point of stability, genuinely democratic and pioneeringly socialist, in the Middle East. She is not going to be convulsed in revolution, or go communist, or flirt with the Chinese. Her loyalty does not have to be bought.

What more natural that she should have a close relationship with Britain, who still has much of the aura of a big power, and who has played such an intimate role in the life of the Jewish people?

Links with Israel under strain.
By DAVID SPANIER

The Times (London, England),Friday, Oct 06, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57065.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS101150022



Members of the advance party from 42 Royal Marine Commando after their arrival in Aden from Singapore

MARINES FLY IN TO ACT AS ADEN REARGUARD

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Aden, Oct. 5

An advance party of 27 officers and 44 senior non-commissioned officers of 42 Royal Marine Commando flew here today from Singapore to prepare rearguard protection for withdrawing British troops.

The main body of the Marines will arrive in about 10 days on board the commando carrier Bulwark. They will be the last British force to leave Aden when South Arabia gains independence on January 9.

The Commando, under Lieutenant-Colonel Timothy Morgan, will take over security in the Steamer Point area from the 1st Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire.

Navy task force

Security in the Maalla district of Aden was recently taken over by 45 Royal Marine Commando on its return from the hinterland. A third Royal Marine unit, 40 Commando, is due to arrive soon with the Royal Navy task force which will remain in South Arabian waters after independence.

Colonel Morgan, who was here in 1961 as operations officer with 45 Commando, said his men received training for their Aden duties in Singapore, where their camp was turned into a replica of Steamer Point.

The main party will bring four 105 m.m. howitzers, but Colonel Morgan said these would stay on the ship unless needed.

The last men of the 1st Battalion, The Lancashire Regiment, which withdrew from the Al Mansoura district of Aden recently, will leave for Britain on Monday. Three days later the first men of the 1st Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own will follow. Only the three Royal Marine Commandos will remain.

A military spokesman said that the British forces were in a very good position logistically. Given reasonable notice a total withdrawal could be carried out with ease before the existing deadlines.

Yesterday the 12,000-ton Royal Navy assault ship Fearless sailed for Bahrain with her second cargo of military vehicles from Aden. She will return shortly for a third trip.

More than 50,000 tons of stores and 1,000 service vehicles have been shipped out of Aden by the 280 members of the joint services port unit. The unit arrived here by air last May after a labour dispute between Arab dockers and the Aden Port Trust which closed the port for nearly a month.

Egypt is reported to have brought forward the date for the evacuation of its remaining 15,000 troops in Yemen from the end of December to mid-November. Most heavy equipment, including tanks and artillery, has already been shipped out.

The only troops left in the area of Sana, one of the two capitals, are those guarding the military airfield. Troops have begun pulling out of Taiz, the second capital. Egyptians serving the Yemen Government have also decided not to stay behind after the Egyptian forces leave.

Under the recent Khartum agreement, President Nasser promised to withdraw his troops from the Yemen and King Faisal of Saudi Arabia agreed to stop helping the royalist Yemenis.

ADEN, Oct. 5.—A newly formed People's Court in Yemen has sentenced to death the Yemen Prosecutor, General Sayid Abdulqadir Alqhatari, Sana radio reported tonight.

Alqhatari was President Sallal's close legal adviser in political prosecutions, and opponents of the republican regime say that as a member of the security court he sentenced a number of people to death.—*Agence France Presse.*

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Yes!

Marines Fly In To ACT As Aden Rearguard.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Friday, Oct 06, 1967; pg. 7; Issue 57065.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS118189382

US prices shoot up

From Joseph Slevin, Washington, October 5

Shooting wars cause price inflation and Vietnam is following the form charts. The American people are getting hit by higher prices. Living costs are going up month after month and there are disturbing signs that the pace of the rise is quickening.

No one is arguing any longer about whether the price boosts are big enough or frequent enough to rate being called "inflationary". Instead, the dispute is over the question of whether they still can be called creeping inflation or whether they have moved up into the trotting class.

Consumer prices climbed just under 3 per cent last year. Arthur Ross, commissioner of Labor Statistics, reluctantly predicted the other day that another rise of close to 3 per cent is in prospect for this year. An even bigger jump is anticipated in 1968. The current crop of forecasts starts from a low of 3 per cent and ranges up to 4 per cent from there.

Put the three years together and you have a prediction that the buying power of the dollar will drop by a dime from 1965 to 1968.

It is not as severe an inflationary surge as the one that swept through the United States in the 1950 Korean War boom but there has not been anything since Korea to match it. Until the current round of price boosts began, the worst post-Korean rise had been a 7 per cent jump in living costs from 1955 to 1958.

Consumers can see the evidence of price increases on every hand. Automobile prices just have been increased an average of more than $100 a car. Manufacturers have announced a new round of kitchen appliance price hikes. Sharp increases have been posted for plate and flat glass. Shoe prices went up shortly before the autumn selling season began. Petrol prices have been climbing since Egypt closed the Suez Canal last June.

The list is long and it will be getting longer. Food price increases are ahead. There will be fresh advances in hospital charges, doctor's fees, and some of the other services that have been bounding ahead at a breakneck clip. Wholesale industrial commodity prices are one of the most sensitive of all inflation barometers

The closely watched industrial prices had held steady for five happy months but they went up a worrisome three-tenths of one per cent in August and climbed another two-tenths last month.

President Johnson has been telling Congress that enactment of his Vietnam war surtax is needed to keep prices under control. The most that can be said for the surtax, though, is that it will slow the inflationary price advance.

Not even the war tax's most ardent advocate claims that it will prevent further price increases. Unfortunately inflation has gained a costly head start.

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Steel and acid up

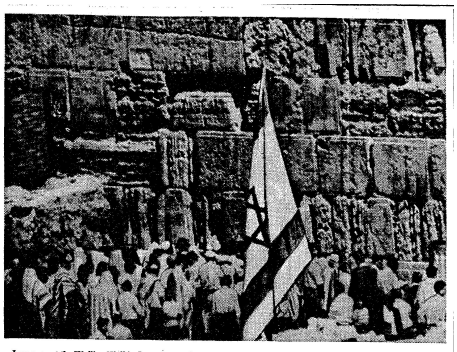
Allegheny Ludlum Steel of the United States yesterday announced rises averaging 3½ per cent on its base stainless steel prices, effective Monday. And Olin Mathieson said it was raising sulphuric acid prices by $3 to $33 a ton from October 15.

US prices shoot up.
From Joseph Slevin, Washington

The Times (London, England),Friday, Oct 06, 1967; pg. 23; Issue 57065.

Category: Business and Finance

Gale Document Number:CS388066630



Jews pray at the Walling Wall in Jerusalem on Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year, for the first time in 20 years

SHIRLEY TEMPLE MAY WIN SEAT

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT—New York, Oct. 6

Mrs. Charles Black, once known to millions of cinema goers as Shirley Temple the child star, is considered to have an excellent chance of winning a seat for the Republicans in the House of Representatives.

She is running against six other Republicans and six Democrats in a special election in San Mateo County on November 14 to fill a vacancy caused by the death last June of Representative Arthur Younger, Republican.

Mrs. Black, now 39 and the mother of three children, says: "I'm very proud of my past. At least people know what I was doing as a child. I wasn't stealing hubcaps".

But she is not running on her record as "little Shirley Temple", even though she has changed her name on the voting register from "Shirley Jane Black" to "Shirley Temple Black".

Vietnam hawk

She is against crime in the streets, is for racial harmony and moral regeneration, and is against the way President Johnson is conducting the Vietnam war. On this last, she is something of a hawk.

On domestic matters, she feels that the United States needs a moral renaissance.

Now the wife of a wealthy businessman, Mrs. Black has considerable financial backing. Among the members of her finance committee is Mr. Bing Crosby, an old friend from her Hollywood days. Others include a company president, a board chairman and a couple of directors.

"My campaign", Mrs. Black says, "is being financed entirely by the free-will contributions of those who agree with my views on the vital issues of today".

Her Republican rivals in this election include Sheriff Earl Whitemore, who has been elected to that office six times, and Mr. Paul McCloskey, a businessman who won two awards in the Korean war. Among her Democratic rivals is Mr. Edward Keating, a former publisher of *Ramparts* magazine, who is running as a "peace" candidate.

Algeria to release Briton

ALGIERS, Oct. 6.—Mr. Alexander Donald Ross, a British shipping adviser, who has been held without charge for more than two months by Algerian military security, will be released provisionally tomorrow, his wife was told here tonight.

Mrs. Jutta Ross, aged 34, who is German by birth, was called to the Defence Ministry and told she could meet her husband tomorrow. He was not to leave the country pending the results of an inquiry, officials said.

Solitary confinement

Mr. Ross, 55-year-old adviser to the Algerian state shipping company for the past three years, was arrested on August 4 while recovering from mumps in his suburban flat.

Mrs. Ross and her daughter Cornelia have been allowed one visit to Mr. Ross. Until they saw him on September 17, he had been in solitary confinement and without a change of clothes.—*Reuter.*

India joins UN call to end bombing

FROM OUR UNITED NATIONS CORRESPONDENT—New York, Oct. 6

India today joined the ranks of a score of countries, including such Nato allies as Canada and Denmark, which have spoken up in the General Assembly's debate to urge the United States to stop the bombing of North Vietnam. The contrary view, supporting the bombing unequivocally, has been put by only Thailand and Nationalist China. Britain's stand was one of qualified support.

Sardar Swaran Singh, the Indian Defence Minister, today told the Assembly: "We hope that the United States will, in the larger interests of peace, take a calculated risk by stopping the bombing of North Vietnam in the belief that it will lead to a cessation of all hostilities throughout Vietnam, and negotiations for a peaceful settlement."

He went on to appeal to the Hanoi Government "to look at this question from the larger interest of peace in Asia", and expressed confidence that Hanoi would "respond favourably" if no preconditions were laid to the cessation.

The Indian spokesman added: "We should like to add the voice of India to that of others, including the Secretary-General's, who have expressed their belief and hope that an unconditional cessation of the bombing of North Vietnam would be followed by a cessation of all hostilities and negotiations for a peaceful settlement.

"We do so not merely as an exercise in wishful thinking but with the confidence and belief based on our talks with the various parties concerned in the conflict."

Observers here note that India not only has diplomatic or consular relations with all the parties concerned, including Peking, but is also a member of the international control commission set up by the Geneva conference of 1944 to observe the working of the agreement. The other members are Canada and Poland, both of which have already called for a bombing halt.

38 die in Vietcong mine blasts

SAIGON, Oct. 6.—Vietcong anti-tank mines killed 38 Vietnamese civilians when they blew up two buses near Da Nang.

Minutes after a Marine jeep was blown up by a mine south-west of Da Nang yesterday, one of the buses blew up near the spot, killing 18 civilians and wounding eight.

into ploughshares

GERARD-JOSEPH CABANES—Hanoi, Oct. 6

ders from wings and tails are turned into shovels and picks. Containers from ball-bearing bombs are made into plates, saucepans, bowls, surgical instruments, sterilization trays and splints for broken limbs.

The North Vietnamese make tan-kards, flutes and one-stringed musical instruments from flare and rocket tubes. Mudguards and chain-guards for bicycles come from small pieces of wing.

Agriculture profits because bomb fragments can be forged into ploughshares. The fragments are gathered in the fields by farm workers and children on their way to school.

The story is told of one bridge in the Ky Anh district, some 200 miles south of Hanoi, which was so heavily bombed that the surroundings produced 30 tons of bomb fragments. A forge run by the neighbouring farm cooperative used them to turn out 60,000 ploughshares.

Perhaps the most unexpected use for American metal is in the manufacture of the medals used to decorate North Vietnam soldiers and militiamen.

United States air activity over the Hanoi region has increased considerably this week after a fortnight of relative calm. Several times a day the capital has been shaken as the Americans have struck heavily at targets between six and 30 miles away, most of them to the north and north-east.

As the raids increase so does the sound of fire from anti-aircraft guns and missile launching pads, confirming reports that air defences round Hanoi have been greatly strengthened. North Vietnam aircraft, too, have been more active and MiGs are frequently to be seen wheeling over Hanoi itself.

In Haiphong, too, defences have been reinforced to meet a new wave of attacks.—*Agence France Presse.*

Lessons of Egypt's defeat

CAIRO, Oct. 6.—Egypt was defeated in the June war because her forces did not know how to use their weapons properly and some senior officers became hysterical after the initial Israel air strikes, Cairo newspaper editor Muhammad Hassanein Heykal said today.

Reasons for the "bitter defeat during six black days" ranged from poor morale and poor military tactics to dereliction and failure by certain elements of the military leadership to keep up with scientific military techniques, he said in his weekly article.

Mr. Heykal is editor of *Al Ahram*, which is considered close to the Egyptian Government. He is also a personal friend of President Nasser.

The failure of the Air Force determined the fate of the war in the first few hours, he wrote. Attacks on the Air Force were expected, but their failure to repel them was disastrous.

As a result, some elements at the armed forces headquarters became hysterical and disguised the truth for some time from other Egyptian officials.

Egypt had moved her forces into Sinai with astounding swiftness before the war, but a show of force was different from efficiency in using them. Modern warfare was not massing weapons, but how to use them, Mr. Heykal added.

Yemen withdrawal

He said Egypt's military tactics were initially aimed at forcing Israel concentrations away from the Syrian front. Since it was decided not to strike first, Egyptian positions should have been changed to defensive rather than offensive.

Israel had "unusual aid, but exploited it with unusual brilliance while we also had considerable potentialities but wasted them with unusual dereliction".

Mr. Heykal also criticized Egypt's military intelligence network, and said the Arab fronts had not been coordinated properly.

The newspaper reported that Egypt will pull all her troops out of Yemen by December 15, but will still be bound by a joint defence pact at the request of the Republican Government.

The report said all Egyptian experts were also being withdrawn, but they could be recalled by the Yemen Government after the military evacuation was over. Egyptian forces in the republican capital of Sana will be pulled out by October 15.

Al Ahram said Egyptian experts were being withdrawn to clear all doubts that they were forced upon the republic.—*Reuter.*

Sir Dingle Foot to visit Cairo

BY OUR DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Sir Dingle Foot, Labour M.P. for Ipswich, and former Solicitor-General, announced yesterday that he will be leaving London today for Cairo, where he is due to meet President Nasser.

The visit is private but Sir Dingle hopes to pave the way for the official talks on a resumption of relations which Sir Harold Beeley, a former Ambassador to Egypt, is to begin with Cairo representatives in about 10 days' time.

Yesterday Mr. Goronwy Roberts, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, asked Mr. J. K. Starnes, the Canadian Ambassador in Cairo, who was passing through London, to call at the Foreign Office and they had a talk for some 40 minutes.

This was primarily to thank Mr. Starnes for the way in which his mission has been looking after British interests in Egypt in the absence of a British Ambassador, but it certainly gave the British Government the opportunity to hear an up-to-date account of the situation in Cairo, and of the chances of an improvement in the relations between Egypt and the west.

Egyptians accused of Sana firing

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

ADEN, Oct. 6

Colonel Abdul Qader al Khatari, the Yemen Deputy Minister of the Interior and head of security, who was sentenced to death yesterday for shooting at demonstrators on Tues day, accused the Egyptian forces of opening fire according to the recorded proceedings of his trial broadcast from Sana today.

The broadcast said that the demonstrators, protesting against the arrival of an Arab peace committee in Sana, twice tried to get into the headquarters of the Egyptian military command and threw stones at Egyptian guards. Khatari was said to have drawn his pistol and fired.

Khatari was heard telling the court: "I did not open fire, the Egyptians did." The prosecution rejected his contention.

Lessons of Egypt's defeat.
The Times (London, England),Saturday, Oct 07, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57066.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68382023

CAIRO TURNING TO BRITAIN

Sir D Foot to make report

FROM OUR MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT—Cairo, Oct. 8

Sir Dingle Foot, the former Solicitor-General, arrived in Cairo this weekend on a visit aimed at improving Anglo-Egyptian relations. Official contacts will be renewed next week by Sir Harold Beeley, but while Sir Dingle is not an outrider for the former Ambassador he will tell Whitehall anything useful that he learns.

One hopes that this will be more than is vouchsafed to professional seekers after information, whose diplomatic or journalistic efforts to discern a clear Egyptian policy have so far been in vain.

The heavy hand of bureaucracy does not help, but the uncertainty is shared by many Egyptians in positions of responsibility and by all those less well situated.

The truth is that the country is only just beginning to get up off the canvas after the battering that it took in June, and if it moves a little slowly round the ring for the next few months it will hardly be surprising.

Having said that, one should add that the decision to turn back to the west seems to have been both quickly and positively taken in spite of the recriminations of the summer. Whether this is primarily an instinctive reaction or is caused by a more uncompromising Soviet attitude is not clear, but the ready response of Whitehall by contrast with what is felt to be short-sighted sluggishness in Washington has been appreciated.

Mr Brown's progress

Indeed, though it may be many months before a British Ambassador's flag flutters on the imposing residence in Garden City there are grounds for hope that for the first time Britain may be more useful to President Nasser as a friend than as an enemy.

This presupposes some wise diplomacy on both sides which is scarcely justified by the record, but Mr. George Brown, the Foreign Secretary, has been making progress in Arab eyes since the disastrous "Tiran period" of the early summer, and Sir Dingle Foot said that Mr. Brown would like to come to Cairo.

Sir Dingle added that he supported the proposals of U Thant, the United Nations Secretary-General, for a withdrawal of Israel forces from the areas they occupied in the summer and said that he hoped to see President Nasser. This morning he saw the pyramids.

Bahrain threat

President Nasser, for his part, is demonstrating a disinclination to involve himself in other people's problems which could, if maintained, change the picture radically. He is reported to have no regrets, for example, about support of the Yemen revolution but some who have seen him recently say that he is determined to concentrate on domestic problems.

The British disengagement from South Arabia, which will come within a few weeks of the last Egyptian leaving Yemen, is an equally important factor, but by the same token the greatest single threat to good Anglo-Egyptian relations would seem to lie in the Gulf, where British troops will remain on Arab soil.

The Bahrain National Liberation Front announced in Cairo on Friday that it would spare no effort to intensify the struggle against Britain. It would use force if necessary to overcome Britain's aggressive designs and win independence.

There is also a possibility of another falling-out over Israel, but Britain's interest in the early opening of the Suez Canal may well be more fully shared here when the disadvantage of depending on the charity of King Faisal of Saudi Arabia and King Idris of Libya becomes more obvious. Whether an early start can be made at least on clearing the canal of the 14 obstructions and repairing the badly damaged equipment on shore depends largely on the United Nations and on an avoidance of further incidents like those in which Egyptian civilians have been killed and wounded by Israel shells.

Sir Harold Beeley will doubtless urge the Egyptians to do what they can but meanwhile the Israelis continue to throw up breastworks on the east bank while the evacuation of civilians from the west bank is being systematically undertaken. It remains a thoroughly dangerous and unsatisfactory situation and, with strains also mounting in Yemen and South Arabia, there is plenty to occupy both Britain and Egypt.

Qahtan as-Shaabi, the leader of the South Arabian National Liberation Front (N.L.F.) delegation to the talks with the Front for the Liberation of Occupied South Yemen (Flosy), arrived last night with praise for the assistance extended by President Nasser, whom he called the leader of the Arab revolution. He promised to enter the talks with an open heart in an effort to reach national unity.

Jordan Army is reshuffled

AMMAN, Oct. 8.—King Husain of Jordan announced today changes in the Army, appointing Field Marshal Habes Majali, the Commander-in-Chief, as Defence Minister in the new Government, formed yesterday under Bahjat at-Talhouni, and pensioning off two key officers.

No new Commander-in-Chief was named—King Husain himself is Supreme Commander—but General Amer Khamash was named to "control and supervise" the Army and carry out the King's orders for its reorganization.

Marshal Majali was also named the King's adviser.

Brigadier Muhammed Ahmed Salim, the commander of the western front, was pensioned off, as well as Brigadier Atta Ali, the second in command.—*Associated Press.*

CANBERRA.—Australia has signed a migration agreement that will provide free travel for Turkish migrants under 19 years of age.

Cairo Turning To Britain.
FROM OUR MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Monday, Oct 09, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57067.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68250953

Israel plan for return of Arabs

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

TEL AVIV, OCT. 8

Israel and the International Red Cross have been working out a plan which may lead to the repatriation of approximately 40,000 Arabs who fled from the west bank to Jordan during the June war. The plan, described here as a scheme for the reunification of families divided by the war, is expected to crystallize this week and will then be put to King Husain's Government, which has not yet been consulted.

The proposal will not satisfy the Jordan Government as it provides only for the repatriation of west bank residents and not for refugees of the 1948 war who fled from U.N.R.W.A. (United Nations Relief and Works Agency) camps in the west bank nor for fugitives from Jerusalem.

Some 200,000 Arabs fled across the Jordan during and after the war. According to U.N.R.W.A. records, they included some 120,000 refugees on their relief rolls.

A Defence Ministry source here said the reunion of Arab families in Jerusalem was not being ruled out but that it was not part of the present plan. The procedure for Jerusalemites wishing to be joined by relatives is the same as for other Israel Arabs, the official said. Tens of thousands of Arabs had entered Israel down the years under that arrangement.

Egyptians repatriated

Applications on behalf of some 40,000 west bank residents are expected under the new plan. Previously there has been no distinction between 1967 and 1948 refugees or between west bank and Jerusalem residents. The Jordanians originally forwarded applications on behalf of some 130,000. The arrangement broke down, the Israelis adhered to an August 31 deadline and there was time only for some 14,000 to return.

The repatriation to Egypt of 500 to 600 former officials at El Arish, the administrative centre of Sinai, is to take place tomorrow under an arrangement by the International Red Cross in Cairo. The Israelis have offered to repatriate some 3,000 Egyptians held in a detention camp but the Cairo Government has condemned the offer as "expulsion".

Israel plan for return of Arabs.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Monday, Oct 09, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57067.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68775241

INTEREST IN EGYPT

From the Indonesian Ambassador to the United Arab Republic

Sir,—With reference to your editorial (September 26) on Russia and Middle East, I quote "It is not in Britain's or anyone's interests that Egypt should sink into an Indonesian chaos"—and *I* add "or a British Commonwealth type of mess".

For the rest I agree with you that Egypt should not sink into a chaos or a mess of whatever type.

Yours, &c.,

A. J. MOKOGINTA.

Cairo.

Interest In Egypt.
A. J. MOKOGINTA. Cairo

The Times (London, England),Monday, Oct 09, 1967; pg. 9; Issue 57067.

Category: Letters to the Editor

Gale Document Number:CS151874889

South Arabia rivals hold talks

From NICHOLAS HERBERT

CAIRO, OCT. 9

South Arabia's nationalist groups met here tonight for the first time in an effort to reach agreement on a joint negotiating position for talks with Britain.

This was stated by an Egyptian Ministry of Information official who said there was every reason to believe the two groups—Flosy and the N.L.F.—would resolve their differences at formal talks due to begin tomorrow.

Differences are understood to have made themselves visible even before the meeting took place and, although their exact nature is uncertain, it is noteworthy that Abdullah Al Asnag, the chairman of Flosy's political bureau and perhaps the organization's best negotiator, has not yet arrived. This could have something to do with the unstable situation in Yemen where Flosy has its headquarters.

Tough position

Egyptian interest appears to be behind getting an agreement and while official sources reject the idea that Egypt can influence the course of the talks, it is clear that everything is being done to urge agreement.

The N.L.F., whose strength appears to have grown with events in Yemen and South Arabia, is believed likely to take a tough position at the talks, which are due to cover the formation of an interim government, constitutional issues, the achievement of national unity and the takeover of power. One thorny issue likely to be raised as time passes is whether other interested groups will be allowed to take part in the talks.

South Arabia rivals hold talks.
From NICHOLAS HERBERT

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Oct 10, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57068.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS85028170

EGYPT HOPES ON OIL

From NICHOLAS HERBERT, Cairo, Oct. 9

Egypt has high hopes for her oil industry although Israel now controls wells which last year yielded 78 per cent of the country's production.

Dr. Tahir al-Hadidy, director general of the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation, concedes that the loss of Sinai may deprive Egypt of £30m. it could otherwise have expected to earn this financial year from oil exports, but he is confident that large-scale imports will be unnecessary.

No oil has been imported since the June war. This is because the large Morgan field offshore in the Gulf of Suez came into production in April and is producing at a good enough rate to make up for the Sinai wells.

It is naturally hoped that the loss of these will be temporary, but even without them prospects look brighter than they did a few years ago. Dr. al-Hadidy is not now inclined to repeat the prophecy he once made that Egypt's oil revenue might equal that of Saudi Arabia and Libya by 1970. He is clearly pleased with developments in the Western Desert, where he says prospects are getting brighter and brighter.

Cairo newspapers here recently reported a big new find near Mersah Matruh, and it is the suggestion that Libya's huge oil structures may extend into Egypt which really excites Cairo. Dr. al-Hadidy has said it is probable more oil will be found at new sites in the Gulf of Suez and Nile Delta.

He has promised that every inch of the Western Desert will be searched by an Egyptian company formed for the purpose, and early in September a protocol was signed with the Soviet Union providing for it to help exploration in the area of the Siwa Oasis. Plans also exist for building ports on the Red Sea for the Far East, and the Mediterranean for European exports.

Egypt Hopes On Oil.
From NICHOLAS HERBERT

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Oct 10, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57068.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS85290314

Egypt explains Amer's death

BEIRUT, Oct. 10.—The Egyptian Prosecutor-General said in a report tonight it had been established that Field Marshal Abdel Hakim Amer had been killed by poison which came from Egyptian intelligence sources.

According to the report, quoted by Cairo radio, the death was a case of suicide.

Salah Nasr, who was chief of the Egyptian military intelligence at the time of Amer's death, has been under house arrest for some time.

The prosecutor said Amer had taken doses of aconite mixed with opium between September 13 and the following night, when he died. —*Reuter*.

Egypt explains Amer's death.
The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Oct 11, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 57069.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS17395019

Egypt fears new threat to Canal

FROM OUR MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

CAIRO, OCT. 10

Egypt has told various interested countries that Israel troops must withdraw from Sinai before the Suez Canal can be opened. The authoritative newspaper *Al Ahram* says the suggestion that the canal should be opened if Israel withdrew 16 miles has been regretfully rejected.

I understand the Government feels that anything short of withdrawal behind the frontiers of June 5 would enable Israel to return across the desert in a short time to interfere with navigation

The official view is that Israel is determined to prevent navigation, and it is alleged here that Israel fire has been concentrated on dredgers and other maintenance equipment so as to make the reopening more difficult Certainly the Suez Canal Authority building at Port Tewfik, on the southern end of the canal, has been wrecked by shelling.

Sir Dingle Foot, former Solicitor General, who is conferring with officials here in an effort to pave the way to improved Anglo-Egyptian relations, today saw some of the damage in the Canal Zone when he went to Ismailia.

Egypt fears new threat to Canal.
FROM OUR MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Oct 11, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57069.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68644171

TIMES PAST
THE TIMES
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THE FRONTIERS OF ISRAEL

An air of unreality hangs over discussions on peace for the Middle East. But this does not mean that nothing changes on the spot. The passage of time, which involves the silting of the Suez Canal, is only less visibly solidifying temporary arrangements elsewhere. Time, indeed, converts *de facto* positions into *de jure* ones. Yet to acquiesce in this situation is not in itself going to provide any solution. On the contrary, it makes more likely a fourth Arab-Israel war, simply because war will be accepted as the only way by which anomalies created by war can be corrected. It is this prospect that makes the terms of a realistic settlement a first concern to outside powers.

All the plans for peace so far put up have fallen on deaf ears. As a result public opinion tends to become convinced that the problem is insoluble. What is needed is to get the world accustomed to the fact that Israel's victory makes some permanent changes inevitable. Even the Arabs do not really suppose that they can regain all their losses on the ground that aggressors must not be rewarded. For one thing, the world does not agree with their simple view of aggression. For another, their argument is vitiated by their own actions between 1948 and 1967, of which only the last was PRESIDENT NASSER'S closing of the Tiran Straits in May. It was the Arabs who refused to recognize the 1948 cease-fire lines as Israel's legal frontiers. If they had done so, there would have been a very strong case for insisting that agreed frontiers must not be changed by force. But the Arabs' own past attitudes enable Israel to claim now that she has merely occupied new cease-fire lines. The problem is thus to decide where a stable legal frontier should be.

That frontier cannot be the line where the fighting stopped in 1948 or 1967. It must take into account Israel's insistence on a degree of security that goes beyond paper guarantees. But Israel should ask only for the *minimum* frontier rectifications if she is to create a new set of frontiers with any chance of ultimate stability and acceptance. The present occupied area is not that minimum, and indeed is a source of weakness because of the large Arab population it encloses.

Obviously the west bank of the Jordan should be returned to Jordan, though preferably as a demilitarized zone. It will suit Israel better to have a viable Jordan as her neighbour rather than any successor state. Israel can, however, legitimately claim some rectification on security grounds of the corridor to Jerusalem. This could be part of the give and take of frontier changes that Israelis themselves have in the past admitted to be desirable. Israel should give back the west bank but will keep Jerusalem. No Israel Government could give up Jerusalem, but a special inviolable status, on the Vatican model, will need to be found for the Christian and Muslim holy places.

Israel is reasonably entitled to keep the Syrian heights while Syria parades its present hysterical belligerency. But they should be only held as sureties to Syria's readiness to organize a peaceful frontier. It is unrealistic to expect Israel to hand back the Gaza strip (as opposed to providing for its residents) in the light of what happened after it was surrendered ten years ago. And since Israel cannot yet be sure of the right of innocent passage through the Suez Canal, she will need to be sure of free access to her own port of Eilat. It would be preferable to demilitarize Sinai, or at least to arrange a *cordon sanitaire* there more lasting than the one provided by the United Nations. Israel might well continue to occupy defensive positions along the Gulf of Aqaba, while returning to Egypt the oil installations in Sinai and control of the canal, so that Egypt enjoyed the revenues of both.

The chances of a settlement along such realistic lines are remote now. A settlement of this sort offers much to the Arabs, whose reconstruction is virtually impossible without them. Israel may be able to conclude bilateral agreements as this sinks in. The danger is that other countries will simply take one side or other, which will fossilize present conditions and present hatreds, and so prepare the way for another round of fighting.

The Frontiers Of Israel.
The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Oct 11, 1967; pg. 9; Issue 57069.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS151219531

Israel stands by treaty proposal

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

TEL AVIV, OCT. 11

Officials here said tonight that no third party proposals will budge Israel from her position that the cease-fire lines created by the June war will be changeable only by an Arab-Israel peace treaty. The feeling was that anything was possible at an Arab-Israel conference table, but that complete inflexibility must be maintained until there were peace talks.

Accordingly, officials declined to react to suggestions in *The Times* today, proposing the basis of a settlement. Suggestions from British sources are particularly suspect here these days since Mr. Brown has created the impression that he is ready to sell out the Israelis to get British shipping moving again through the Suez Canal.

As reported here *The Times* proposals provided for Israel forces to retain positions along the Gulf of Aqaba in a demilitarized Sinai peninsula to assure free access to Eilat, but left control of the Suez Canal to Egypt. Presumably they would bar Israel shipping. That would imply the continuation of a state of belligerency and would negate Israel's basic condition for a withdrawal from the bank of the canal.

Israel stands by treaty proposal.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Oct 12, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57070.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS101805388

Egypt wants to make friends

Sir Dingle Foot, the former Solicitor-General, arrived back in London early today after meeting President Nasser in Cairo. He said at Heathrow that he thought Egypt was anxious to resume friendly relations with Britain.

Sir Dingle went to Cairo on his own initiative after an official invitation from the Egyptian Government. During his five-day stay, he said, he did not get the impression that the allegations of Britain helping Israel in the Middle East war were on the Egyptians' minds.

On the question of reopening the Suez Canal, Sir Dingle said: "The first condition would be evacuation of the Egyptian territory now occupied by Israeli troops."

Settlement chance

He had been "very greatly impressed" by President Nasser.

"I think it would be a very considerable loss if he was removed from the scene, because I think he has shown great statesmanship and consideration, both at Khartum and since then", he added.

Sir Dingle said there was at this time a chance of a settlement in the Middle East—"and it is a chance which may never come again in our lifetime if we do not take it now".

Sir Dingle will now see Sir Harold Beeley, who flies out to Egypt on Sunday in an official capacity, and Mr. Brown, the Foreign Secretary.

Our Middle East correspondent writes from Cairo: President Nasser yesterday conferred for an hour with Sir Dingle Foot, who said afterwards the chances of restoring Anglo-Egyptian relations were "pretty good".

Egypt wants to make friends.
The Times (London, England),Friday, Oct 13, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 57071.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS18181453

Egyptian opposition to settlement plea

FROM OUR MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT—Cairo, Oct. 12

Egypt would find a settlement of the kind proposed in *The Times* leading article yesterday almost wholly unacceptable as it departs from the principle that states should not achieve territorial aggrandisement by force. This is the firmly held view here, and the fact that Mr. George Brown apparently shares it is one reason for the recent rapprochement between Egypt and Britain.

It is possible that freedom of navigation for Israel ships through the Gulf of Aqaba would be conceded in an overall settlement, but it is unthinkable here that Israel should be allowed to get its hands on Gaza.

The idea of a demilitarized Sinai is very little easier to contemplate, and in versions of the article which are available here the refugee problem is conspicuously ignored. As for the return of the Sinai oil wells, Egypt expects to get these back as a matter of right rather than concession.

It is precisely the fear that Israel would refuse to discuss Gaza and other issues arising from the original Palestine issue, and would use them as an excuse to ignore international agreements to which she is bound, that has led Egypt and other Arabs to reject the idea of direct negotiations. These, it is felt, could be made to drag on interminably with Israel as the state in possession attempting to wear down Arabs suffering from losses of canal revenues and west bank productivity.

On the other hand, it is felt that in the absence of negotiations Israel, with a largely volunteer army and a basic employment problem, cannot afford to procrastinate too much.

The inherent danger of the present position is seen as one in which one side or the other will tire of a stalemate and provoke another round of fighting. The best hope as seen here, therefore, is to have the Security Council as an impartial third party. It has been fervently hoped here that the issue could be kept out of the hands of the General Assembly. Speechmaking is seen to stand little chance of success and what are regarded as humiliating statements coming from Tel Aviv are taken as evidence that the enemy is not interested in a solution.

Officials also point out here that no Arab can accept the loss of Jerusalem and strong exception is taken to the suggestion that Israel is "reasonably entitled" to keep the Syrian heights which were seized by force.

Egyptian opposition to settlement plea.
FROM OUR MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Friday, Oct 13, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57071.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS84241741

WHY EGYPT'S GUNS HELD FIRE

From NICHOLAS HERBERT—Cairo, Oct. 13

The whole Egyptian High Command were in an aircraft flying from Cairo to Sinai when the devastating Israel attack was launched on the morning of June 5, it was disclosed here today.

Muhammad Hassanein Heykal, editor of *Al Ahram*, in the second of his articles analysing Egypt's defeat, said that the Israelis may have known about the flight by decoding an intercepted message sent two days earlier. He suggested that the knowledge that their commanders were somewhere in the air over Sinai may have inhibited the Egyptian ground-to-air missile crews from going into action.

The aircraft which carried Field Marshal Abdul Hakim Amer and senior officers of the General Staff left Cairo at 8 a.m. for Tamada, but before getting there was told that the airfield had been raided. After failing to find an undamaged airfield in Sinai it finally returned to Cairo 90 minutes later. By then it was too late to strike back.

Field Marshal Amer, who was President Nasser's right-hand man until the Arab defeat, was stated to



Field Marshal Amer—death officially described as suicide.

have committed suicide by poison in September. He had been under house arrest on charges of plotting against President Nasser and was said to have first poisoned himself when awaiting interrogation at his home, and to have taken a second dose at a rest home, dying three hours later in hospital. He had been the President's close confidant for 15 years.

Mr. Heykal confessed himself baffled by the June 5 "accident", as he called it, because it was clear that the role of the air forces would be decisive and therefore the enemy would strike at the air force first. The timing of the Israel attack had also been predicted by President Nasser at a meeting three days earlier with the supreme command of the General Staff.

Dealing with Israel's intimate knowledge of the disposition of the Egyptian forces, the editor said that there was no doubt that reconnaissance by American satellites had been invaluable to Israel. However, the enemy had more information than these spacecraft could have provided.

For instance, a friendly country, not the Soviet Union, told the Egyptians that Israel aircraft had with impunity reconnoitred over Egypt, getting as far as Cairo during the nights of May 31 and June 1.

On being asked their opinion the military command said that it was untrue, and that the capacity of the Egyptian defences was not doubted. Such overconfidence was misplaced, as the information was subsequently found true, but was then too late to be useful.

Mr. Heykal concluded that an accident such as the one which befell Egypt that morning would not happen again. It was noted that as most of the Egyptian aircraft were destroyed on the ground, irreplaceable pilots were not lost. "Cheap is the steel, but precious are the men", he declared.

London talks on Cairo visit

BY OUR DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Sir Harold Beeley, who was our Ambassador to Egypt from 1961 to 1964, and who is going to Cairo tomorrow to discuss ways of improving Anglo-Egyptian relations, had a meeting yesterday with Sir Dingle Foot, the former Solicitor-General. Sir Dingle arrived back from Cairo early yesterday after a meeting with President Nasser. He will see Mr. Brown next week.

A report from Cairo published in *The Times* yesterday has been the subject of Foreign Office comment. It stated that Egypt found wholly unacceptable any settlement which allowed territorial aggrandisement by force, and added that Mr. Brown's apparent agreement with this principle also was one reason for the recent rapprochément between Britain and Egypt.

A Foreign Office spokesman emphasized yesterday that in his speech to the General Assembly on September 26 Mr. Brown said: "Britain does not accept . . . that a state should be allowed to extend its frontiers as a result of war. This means that Israel must withdraw. But equally Israel's neighbours must recognize its right to exist, and it must enjoy security within its frontiers".

The Israel Ambassador, Mr. Remez, called on Mr. Brown at the Foreign Office yesterday continuing talks begun on Thursday on the situation on the Middle East. Reports from Jerusalem that the Foreign Secretary strongly urged that Israel forces should be unconditionally withdrawn from the east bank of the Suez Canal were vigorously denied by the Israel Embassy in London last night.

Syria leader ends Iraq visit

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

BEIRUT, OCT. 13

Dr. Nureddin al-Atassi, the Syrian head of state, returned today from a two-day official visit to Baghdad for talks with President Abdul Rahman Arif of Iraq.

Why Egypt's Guns Held Fire.
From NICHOLAS HERBERT

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Oct 14, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57072.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68382030

CAIRO PINS HOPES ON US CHANGE

Sir Harold Beeley arrives

From NICHOLAS HERBERT—Cairo, Oct. 15

Egypt believes that a shift in American policy offers the only hope of moving towards a political solution of the Middle East crisis. Hence the high importance attached to the private contacts beginning in New York between Egyptian and American officials.

Conversion of the United States to the Arab cause is not expected, but abandonment of what is regarded here as the blatantly pro-Israel line in Washington is seen as a precondition to any solution.

While there remains an intense suspicion of American motives at most levels here, Britain is credited with a disproportionate influence in Washington.

This accounts in large measure for the sense of expectation with which Sir Harold Beeley, former British Ambassador to Egypt, who arrived late tonight to renew official contacts with Egypt, has been awaited.

In a statement at the airport, Sir Harold said he was empowered to negotiate on a resumption of diplomatic relations but this was not the end in itself. He agreed that British withdrawal from Aden and recent changes there removed a source of past friction.

He denied a suggestion that Britain was trying to get back into the Arab world ahead of the United States. "We want to resume relations with Egypt as soon as possible because we think it is in our interest," he said. What others did was their affair.

Much heralded

Sir Harold begins official contacts tomorrow, when he is expected to see Dr. Mahmoud Fawzi, presidential adviser on foreign policy, and Dr. Ahmed Hassan el Fikky, acting Foreign Minister. A meeting with President Nasser is expected later. Sir Harold's second visit has been much heralded in the press. So have the arrival yesterday of the first B.O.A.C. airliner from London although it disgorged only four pasengers, and the presence of a group of British travel agents who have been shown it is now safe for an Englishman to walk the Cairo streets.

Publicity has also been given to the possibility, reported today, that Lord Shackleton, Minister without Portfolio, may soon come for discussions with the South Arabian nationalists now meeting here. It all adds up to something like a British week, and President Nasser himself is reported to be surprised at the way it has caught on.

Opening the canal

While the explanation is more certainly available to him than to foreign observers, it seems the visit has had a psychological value as something definite to look forward to.

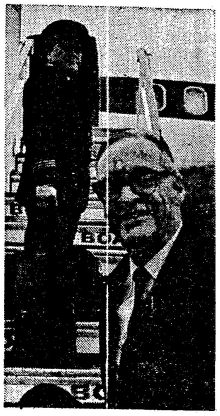
If this is so, there must be a danger that its results will prove a disappointment, which may account for the emphasis on trade and relations in President Nasser's discussions last week with Sir Dingle Foot, the former Solicitor-General.

Governmentally, however, Britain's ability or inability to be heard in Washington may prove a key point. Postponement of the General Assembly session on the Middle East and the renewal of private Egyptian-American talks in New York, whether attributable in part to British intervention or not, will doubtless ease Sir Harold's task here. By the same token, if things go wrong at the United Nations, the effect will be felt in the Anglo-Egyptian arena.

It is pointed out here that both Egypt and Britain have interests in the course suggested, Egypt's interest in moving the United States to a more central position in the Arab-Israel dispute is obvious. The contention is that, apart from the need Britain shares with Egypt to get the Suez Canal reopened as quickly as possible, it is also in the British interest at this juncture of common market negotiations to show maximum independence of the United States.

Whether the initiative of Mr. George Brown, the Foreign Secretary, in sending Sir Harold, is seen in similar terms in Whitehall remains to be seen, but Sir Harold's talks may not be as easy as some seem to think. He is already being tipped in the press here for ambassador when relations are resumed, which is an indication of Egyptian hopes, both generally and specifically.

A Foreign Office spokesman said last night there were no plans, and never had been, for Lord Shackleton to visit Cairo and talk to South Arabian nationalist groups.



Sir Harold Beeley about to leave London by air for Cairo.

Knife attack on Israel MP

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

TEL AVIV, OCT. 15

Mr. Meir Wilner, a communist member of the Knesset (parliament), was stabbed in the back, while walking with his wife on the seafront this evening, by a man reported to have said that he acted " out of anguish for the Jews of Russia ".

A police spokesman said a man aged about 40 surrendered with a knife and said he had served in a Soviet prison for Zionist activities.

Heavy firing on Jordan border

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

TEL AVIV, OCT. 15

The sporadic tensions of the region focused this Yom Kippur weekend on the Israel-Jordan front and fire across the Jordan river yesterday was the heaviest since the June war.

Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, is the most sacred day in the Hebrew year and many soldiers involved in yesterday's battle had been fasting since dusk on Friday and were called away from services in a field synagogue.

Trouble began on Friday when an Israel police car patrolling in the Beisan Valley was blown up.

Yesterday's heavy bombardment had the appearance of a punitive action against the Jordanians who were said to have been helping the marauders.

Arab marauders struck back this morning. Six men crossed the river and laid explosive charges in the Maoz Haim communal farm about a mile from the river. The collective dining hall, a transformer house and a vehicle were destroyed.

Cairo Pins Hopes On US Change.
From NICHOLAS HERBERT

The Times (London, England),Monday, Oct 16, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57073.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS102198608

Husain as envoy of moderation

Cairo visit begins tour

From NICHOLAS HERBERT—Cairo, Oct. 17

King Husain of Jordan conferred briefly with President Nasser here today at the beginning of a long tour on behalf of the Arab cause. As the Arab world's ambassador of moderation he has made a habit of calling in frequently for talks with the man who is now its Prime Minister. The King was here before his recent visit to the Soviet Union, the results of which no doubt were reviewed today, and he will doubtless report back after talks in Algeria, the United States, Spain, France, Britain, west Germany and some African capitals.

It is an impressive itinerary, with perhaps the two toughest assignments at the beginning.

Colonel Boumedienne, the Algerian leader, seems as little disposed to moderation as his allies in Damascus, while the United States is acknowledged in most of the Arab world as the prime obstacle to a political settlement of the Middle East crisis.

If the King reaches the other side of the Atlantic with matters at the United Nations still in the melting pot he could have an important effect on the course of what is conceded to be highly delicate efforts to produce an acceptable resolution. Before that, however, he is likely to have a problem in convincing President Boumedienne that any resolution would be more beneficial than revenge.

S Arabia problem

The economic effects on Egypt were discussed this morning by Sir Harold Beeley when in the course of discussions here on renewing Anglo-Egyptian diplomatic relations he called on Dr. Abdul Moneim el Kaissouny, Minister of Planning.

Sir Harold has already made clear publicly Britain's inability to extend much aid due to her own economic problems but a resumption of trade is being discussed.

Sir Harold also called today on Abdul Khalek Hassouna, Secretary-General of the Arab League, whose council met in special session to discuss the progress being made by the South Arabian nationalist groups Flosy and the N.L.F. on forming a Government to succeed British rule.

This is being kept wisely confidential in view of the danger that any half-explained agreement might produce trouble on the ground.

Israel insists on direct talks

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

TEL AVIV, OCT. 17

The Israel Government today formally reemphasized its decision that the cease-fire agreements which halted the June fighting were replaceable only by peace treaties negotiated directly with the Arab Governments.

This stand, taken at a special Cabinet meeting, was an implicit rejection of informal British suggestions for an Israel withdrawal from the Suez Canal to permit the resumption of international shipping. This would have been in exchange for a declaration of Arab non-belligerency.

Suggestions for the appointment of a special United Nations representative for the Middle East were not rejected.

Consultations by UN members

FROM OUR UNITED NATIONS CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK, OCT. 17

The pace of private talks on the Middle East crisis accelerated at the United Nations headquarters today. Among those who conferred were Mr. Manescu, of Rumania, the president of the General Assembly, and Lord Caradon, of Britain.

Afterwards Lord Caradon told reporters that Britain believed there "should be reference to the Security Council and, we hope, with reasonable speed".

Mr. Arthur Goldberg, the United States representative, met privately for an hour U Thant, the United Nations Secretary-General. Mr. Vasily Kuznetsov, the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, saw U Thant for 40 minutes.

Jordan refugee camp flooded

AMMAN, Oct. 17.—Floods swept through the Souf refugee camp near here tonight, carrying away tents, furniture, and precious food supplies as 13,000 refugees, many carrying children, fled to high ground.

Many families crouched, shivering and hungry, in caves above the camp site while officials organized evacuation.



Mrs. Helen Vlachos arrives at an Athens court for further questioning on a charge that one of her newspapers published a slanderous statement

Bomb attack on U S shop in Athens

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

ATHENS, OCT. 17

Screen doors have been blown apart and window panes broken by an explosion at the American P-X (duty free shop) here. There were no casualties.

A United States Embassy official said today that the nightwatchman had seen someone carrying an object near the back entrance of the building on Syngrou Avenue at about 9.30 last night.

As the watchman approached, the prowler threw the object near the rear entrance. It exploded a few seconds later. The device had probably been wrapped in paper which disintegrated. But a small fragment found had the word "fascist" written on it.

The Greek authorities are investigating this new attack preceding by 48 hours the trial tomorrow of 38 people, including 12 women, accused of setting up a terrorist organization which had planted bombs in Athens in the past few months. There were six previous bomb explosions in central Athens in the past three months.

The defendants, aged between 19 and 25, are to be tried by the extraordinary court martial of Athens on charges under legislation in force before the *coup*, against communist subversion as well as under martial law.

The trial of six other alleged "saboteurs" was separated from that of the 38 because they have not yet been arrested. The charges carry prison sentences from five to 20 years but the leaders may face life imprisonment or even the death penalty.

43 Britons in coach crash

MARTELANGE, SOUTH-EAST BELGIUM, Oct. 17.—A coach carrying 43 British tourists crashed over on to its side near here today. One passenger, Mrs. Celia Julian, aged 76, from the Birmingham area, was slightly hurt. She was able to resume her journey after treatment.

Police said the accident happened when the coach swerved to avoid two cars that were in collision. Three people in the cars were injured.—*Reuter.*

Husain as envoy of moderation.
From NICHOLAS HERBERT

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Oct 18, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57075.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS101150034

A DIALOGUE IN CAIRO

There is more to good relations between countries than the mere exchange of ambassadors. If SIR HAROLD BEELEY succeeds in arranging for the restoration of normal diplomatic relations between Britain and Egypt, well and good—but this would be only the first step in the long and difficult business of establishing first with Egypt and then with the Arab world as a whole the sort of cordial and relaxed relations which should be normal between nations. The present Government has tried steadily and has failed steadily since it came into office to begin to undo nearly a century's mutual misunderstanding. The present opportunity for a fresh beginning arises from the June war. The Egyptians have now forgotten the charge they made then that Britain took an active part on Israel's side, and MR. GEORGE BROWN'S statements of policy since then have finally convinced them of the British Government's innocence and good will.

A speech by the FOREIGN SECRETARY at the United Nations is a slender basis for the opening of the dialogue which MR. MOHAMED HEIKAL called for a month ago. Fortunately, there is more. The fact is that Britain is now in the final stages of liquidating her Arab commitments, and that Egypt, also, is drawing in her horns. Troops are being withdrawn from Yemen, and although Egypt has certainly not renounced the leadership of the Arab world (which she partly chose and which was in part forced on her), she is now more concerned with surviving the immediate consequences of the war.

This would seem, therefore, the moment when the Egyptian Government could reasonably abandon its attitude of suspicious hostility towards Britain. Libya, Iraq, and the Persian Gulf are the principal areas of British economic interest, and the principal areas of Egyptian political influence—which has generally been directed against Britain. Egyptian attitudes have also hindered British diplomacy in Africa. The other important British interest which might be advanced by good relations with Egypt is the reopening of the Suez Canal.

This, however, depends on at least a partial settlement of the Middle East crisis. It is hard to see how Britain can make any useful contribution for the moment, but any improvement in Anglo-Egyptian relations will certainly help. One of the unhappy results of the war was the isolation of Egypt from the west (apart from France), and it has been obvious for a long time that, Russia and the United Nations having failed her, Egypt must sooner or later try to build a bridge to Washington if she is to get Sinai back. Perhaps Britain might help towards building it.

Egypt today is in a perilous position, politically and economically. It is in nobody's interests (not even really in Israel's) that Egypt's economy should collapse, or that PRESIDENT NASSER should be replaced by somebody without his influence in the Arab world as a whole, if that influence is going to be used towards a settlement. The most sensible way to prevent an economic collapse would be to allow Egypt the exploitation of revenues from the Suez Canal and the Sinai oilfields which she lost as a result of the war. This would have to form part of some wider bargain. It is not SIR HAROLD BEELEY'S task to suggest what this should be, but the present dialogue in Cairo could be a useful preliminary to negotiating one.

A Dialogue In Cairo.
The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Oct 18, 1967; pg. 11; Issue 57075.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS184905042

Nasser meeting

CAIRO, Oct. 18.—Sir Harold Beeley, Britain's special representative, will meet President Nasser at 11.30 (local time) on Saturday morning, authoritative sources said here tonight. The meeting is seen as an encouraging sign that Britain and Egypt will soon resume relations, severed by Cairo in December, 1965, over Rhodesia.—*Reuter.*

News in Brief.
The Times (London, England),Thursday, Oct 19, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57076.

Category: News in Brief

Gale Document Number:CS101412179

BRITISH PROPERTY IN EGYPT

From Mr. Patrick Wall, Conservative M.P. for Haltemprice

Sir,—Now that negotiations are proceeding with a view to reestablishing diplomatic relations with the U.A.R. it is to be hoped that the British Government will take positive action to obtain the restitution of and compensation for the property of British nationals that was resequestrated under Proclamation 138 in 1961.

British-owned property that was seized at the time of the Suez incident was either returned or compensation was paid under the terms of the Anglo-Egyptian financial agreement of 1959. However, before the terms of this treaty could be carried out certain property was resequestrated and has remained in Egyptian control ever since. Not only have the owners been denied the use of their property, valued at £E11m., but it has never been made clear whether or not it was eventually to be returned or, in cases where the property was subsequently sold by the Egyptian authorities, what compensation, if any, would be paid.

It is estimated that some 130 British subjects are concerned in this illegal act. Surely the British Government should see that justice is done to their nationals before there can be any question of resuming diplomatic relations or of giving financial help to the Government of the U.A.R.?

Yours faithfully,

PATRICK WALL.

92 Cheyne Walk, S.W.10, Oct. 17.

British Property In Egypt.
PATRICK WALL

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Oct 19, 1967; pg. 11; Issue 57076.

Category: Letters to the Editor

Gale Document Number:CS185298259

Flosy admits new attacks on British

FROM OUR MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

BEIRUT, OCT. 19

Statements in Aden and Beirut today served to underline the dangers still inherent in South Arabia. With talks going on in Cairo between the two main nationalist parties, Flosy and the N.L.F. (National Liberation Front), the temptation to exert pressure from outside is growing.

The Front for the Liberation of Occupied South Yemen (Flosy) in Aden said it was responsible for the increase since last weekend in attacks on British forces.

Flosy was intensifying its attacks, the statement said, because of subversive activities by British intelligence in areas under Flosy control. While Mr. George Brown displayed the olive branch, intelligence was as active as ever.

In Beirut Mr. Sheikhan al Habshi, the Secretary-General of the South Arabian League (S.A.L.), which had maintained dignified silence since putting its case before the Arab League in Cairo, said civil war might break out if Flosy and N.L.F. persisted in boycotting other parties. He said that a majority of South Arabians supported his party and he called for a meeting with nationalist forces.

Delegate walks out

The Egyptian authorities in Cairo are understood to favour the co-opting of at least one and possibly two persons independent of Flosy and N.L.F. into the interim government now being discussed. The N.L.F. in particular, however, is resisting this and both groups refused to deal with the Arab League after it listened to S.A.L.

Yesterday the Arab League council formally instructed its secretary-general and its sub-committee on South Arabia to continue their efforts at uniting all the area's political groups. The Saudi Arabian delegate walked out, reportedly because the council refused to include S.A.L. among the nationalist parties.

Four months to clear canal

ISMAILIA, Oct. 19.—Mr. Mashour Ahmad Mashour, chairman of the Suez Canal Authority, told Sir Harold Beeley, Britain's special envoy, here today that it would take at least four months to make the blocked canal fit for navigation after a political decision to reopen it.

They met when Sir Harold toured this once busy canal zone town to inspect damage caused by Israel shelling last month.

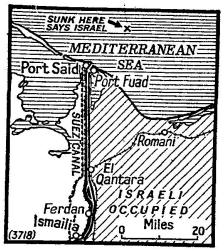
Sir Harold, who is visiting Egypt for talks aimed at resuming diplomatic relations, was due to visit 14 merchant ships, including four British, trapped in the Great Bitter Lake since the war in June.—*Reuter.*

Flosy admits new attacks on British.
FROM OUR MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Friday, Oct 20, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57077.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS101936468



EGYPT ACCUSED OF DELIBERATE AGGRESSION

Israel warning after loss of destroyer

Mr. Levi Eshkol, the Israel Prime Minister, yesterday described Saturday's sinking of the Israel destroyer Eilat by Egyptian missiles as " a deliberate act of aggression ". He spoke at a Cabinet meeting of a " criminal, unwarranted attack ".

In a broadcast last night he said that Israel's answer to the Arab countries and their allies who wished to induce her to revert to the positions she occupied before the June war was a clear ' no '.

The attack on the destroyer, off the Sinai coast, was launched from what officials said was a Russian-built Komar-class missile patrol boat in Port Said harbour. Of the 202 officers and men on board, 43 are believed lost.

ROCKETS FIRED IN TWO PAIRS

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Tel Aviv, Oct. 22

Soviet-built Komar missile boats, in their first actual operation anywhere in the world, sent one of Israel's three destroyers to the bottom of the Mediterranean last night with a loss of 17 dead and 26 missing. Forty-eight of the 159 survivors were injured.

The destroyer, the Eilat, was the former British ship Zealous, and was acquired by Israel in 1956. Helicopters of the Israel Air Force worked through the night by the light of flares flying survivors ashore.

Brigadier Shlomo Errel, officer commanding Israel's small Navy, said this evening that the Egyptians fired four rockets from Port Said harbour at the destroyer in international waters 13¼ miles away and three of them hit her.

He told a press conference that the crew had seen the first green rocket, followed by a white streak, heading towards their vessel and had time to increase speed, make a turn and fire a few machine gun bursts in a pathetic attempt to destroy it.

The missile appeared to be off-course, but it turned towards the ship apparently when the homing device came within range of the Eilat and hit her.

Well outside zone

Two rockets hit the ship in rapid succession at 5.30 p.m. and set the ship ablaze. Some two hours later, when the Egyptians saw that the ship was listing but not sinking, they fired another pair. The first sank the ship and the second exploded among the survivors in the water, Brigadier Errel said.

In reply to questions, he said it was known that Soviet rocket technicians were in Egypt.

The Israelis said that the Eilat was due north of the western extremity of occupied Sinai, and in any case well beyond the 12-mile territorial waters zone set by the Egyptians. The ship had arrived there on Friday and patrolled for nearly 24 hours, passing a number of times the spot where she was later attacked. The Egyptians were thus able to calculate the attack deliberately.

The ship's engines, power and communications system were wrecked by the first two rockets and for nearly two hours the captain was unable to report the attack to his base. Finally contact was established by means of a small transmitter and the captain asked for medical relief.

Immediately afterwards he sent another message saying that the ship was hit again. This time she turned over and sank.

Dangerous breach

JERUSALEM, Oct. 22.—Mr. Eshkol, the Prime Minister, said tonight that Israel would not tolerate such acts as the sinking of the Eilat.

In a statement after a two-hour Cabinet meeting he said that the sinking was not only a violation of international maritime law but also a most dangerous breach of the cease-fire arrangements made after the Middle East war in June.

In a broadcast tonight to introduce Israel's twentieth anniversary celebrations, he said that the Egyptian action was a criminal attack committed without any provocation.

General Dayan, the Defence Minister, said in a weekend speech that the Egyptian Air Force was back to 80 per cent of its strength before the June war, and tanks lost then had now been replaced. —*Reuter.*

Fear of reprisals, page 4; Egyptians face realities, page 8; leading article, page 9.

Medals awarded

CAIRO, Oct. 22.—President Nasser has awarded medals to Egyptian officers who took part in the sinking of the Eilat " in appreciation of their gallantry ", the Middle East news agency reported tonight.

In a Note to U Thant, the United Nations Secretary-General, Egypt said her navy opened fire because Israel violated Egyptian territorial waters.—*Reuter* and *Agence France Presse.*

Dead Sea scroll discovery

FROM MOSHE BRILLIANT

TEL AVIV, OCT. 22

The contents of another Dead Sea scroll, purporting to record God's laws as handed down in the first person, have been revealed by Professor Yigael Yadin, the archaeologist, at the annual conference of the Palestine Exploration Society in Jerusalem.

Part of the text is biblical, but there are additions speaking of laws and festivals not mentioned in the Scriptures. Professor Yadin said the copy was written in the second half of the first century A.D—although, it could have been composed earlier—and was found in the caves of Qumran, Jordan. He declined to reveal how it had been acquired.

He said he was calling it the Temple Scroll, because nearly half the text described plans for a temple in Jerusalem and procedure for worship. As the measurements, the description of the Holy Vessels and of the courts—as well as other details—do not correspond with those of the first and second temples, Professor Yadin suggested that it might refer to a temple that was to have been built.

Guardians of the truth

Interest has centred largely on statutes for the preparedness and mobilization of the people of Israel when threatened by a war of extermination. The regulations provide for a king's bodyguard of 12,000 warriors—1,000 from each of the tribes of Israel—who were guardians of the truth and despisers of lucre, and who were to guard the king day and night against his enemies.

In times of crisis for Israel, the nation was to be mobilized in stages. First, a tithe of the nation was to be sent to battle. If the enemy came in a greater force, one-fifth of the nation was to be sent, then one-third. If the war became most pressing, half was to go to battle and half remain to protect the cities.

Professor Yadin said some of the laws dealing with ritual uncleanliness and purification quoted freely from the Pentateuch, but had additions which were much harsher and more extreme than those passed down to observant Jews today in the Mishnah.

Festivals hitherto unknown

The section about temple sacrifices mentions hitherto unknown festivals, the feast of the wine and the feast of the oil, both based on the calendar of the Qumran sect.

Professor Yadin said he was not revealing how the treasure had come into his hands because it

Egypt Accused Of Deliberate Aggression.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Monday, Oct 23, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 57079.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS17001815

President Nasser turns his attention to home problems

Egyptians face the realities of defeat

From NICHOLAS HERBERT, Middle East Correspondent

Cairo's favourite joke just now is that President Nasser, having failed to talk to President Johnson, has sent Field Marshal Abdul Hakim Amer to talk to President Kennedy. The humour is as "sick" as may be, and a gift for political satire may not be everything, but it does bespeak a realism which distinguishes Egypt from some of its Arab brethren.

The realities, both foreign and domestic, are hardly encouraging at present, and the Government is still nervous about the popular reaction to some of them, which accounts for the rigid censorship still in force.

One has the impression, however, that a good many sophisticated people are ahead of the Government in their willingness to face unpleasant facts, and it is difficult not to admire the good humour of a people who have suffered as much as the Egyptians have since June.

That there is more suffering ahead is not denied and President Nasser, who has made a virtue of seeming to take the people into his confidence, has usually been at his best in trouble.

Those who serve under him do not dissemble. I found no one who was hopeful that the present crisis with Israel could be solved peacefully and few who welcomed the thought that, if it were not, an attempt to settle it forcefully would have to be made.

Serious effects on economy

Everyone conceded that the economic consequences of the war were great but their assertions that they could be surmounted had the ring of conviction. If there was any air of unreality in Cairo, it concerned the belief that an entirely new approach to the Arab world's ideological feuds would be found.

Realistically President Nasser, whose losses in foreign exchange are being made up by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Libya, has taken the opportunity of withdrawing from his burdensome experiment in Yemen and let it be known that Egypt intends to cultivate its own garden rather than dig in neighbouring allotments.

The resolve is doubtless genuine, but his withdrawal, while relaxing inter-Arab tension, also leaves the Arab world leaderless. No one seriously believes that King Faisal can assume the mantle, and in time one supposes that the pressures on President Nasser to reassert himself will build up again. Whether he can do it in a way which will cut



Mr. Mohieddin, heir apparent to President Nasser. Can he beat off the challenge from the left?

across ideological differences remains to be seen, but there are those in Cairo who do not discount the possibility.

Limitations of the Army

For the moment, however, there are more pressing considerations, with the wolf at the door and the Israelis on the canal, and here there are no illusions. There is no great faith in the brick blast walls which people are putting up in front of their doorways in obedience to an official decree, and there are more jokes about the limitations of the Army than about any other single subject. There is more to be learnt about the forces' deficiencies than Hassanein Heykal, the editor of *Al Ahram*, has felt able to print in his review of the war.

Speculation about Marshal Amer's profiteering, which is alleged to have reached prodigious heights, have tended to obliterate doubts about the manner of his mysterious death last month. It has not escaped notice, however, that whereas the first official reports said he made two suicide attempts on successive days, the final one omitted any reference to his taking poison a second time.

This inconsistency is only reinforced by the less well known fact that the full 40 pages of the final report are understood to have been issued only to the editors of three newspapers who contented themselves with printing an official summary.

The summary was all that less reliable servants of the state were given and the suspicion must be that there are details in the longer document which the authorities prefer to keep dark for the moment.

However, Marshal Amer was not a popular figure outside the ranks of the Army and there are many who feel that the responsibility of failure was his and that it must have been hard to bear. Of feeling inside the Army it is impossible to speak, but the number of dismissals in the past four months would suggest that there has been time to weed out the disaffected.

Rival claimants to succession

How well the job has been done cannot be told but the possibility exists that there is somewhere a group of colonels willing to hoist President Nasser with his own petard. Civilian reaction to this is usually that it would be worse than the present regime.

There is speculation too about the Muslim Brotherhood and about the forces of left and right within the present hierarchy, represented respectively by Aly Sabry and Zakaria Mohieddin. Sabry's appointment as Minister Resident in the Canal Zone was seen by some as an attempt at banishment from which his rival would gain, but it put Sabry in close touch with that section of the public most likely to be disaffected, and gave him much publicity.

Nevertheless, there is evidence to suggest that Mohieddin, who as heir-apparent enjoys the President's support, is too strong to be pushed aside even if, as a former Minister of the Interior, he lacks genuine public support. He is thought to be strong in the police and his men seem to control the all-important Cairo section of the Arab Socialist Union, the country's only legal political party.

Some say that President Nasser, tired after 15 years of effort and unwilling to go on though he is still under 50, would like to hand over to Mohieddin as he tried to do in June. Others declare that his own popularity will always make that particular handover impossible.

The President has his enemies and the decision to nationalize the wholesale trade will hardly have improved his standing with the business community; but there is a widespread belief that, whatever happened to Marshal Amer, he was not dispatched with the President's knowledge because "that is not Nasser's way of doing things".

In foreign affairs the people have not yet been told that their President is willing to negotiate with Israel under the machinery of the 1949 armistice agreement which provides for a United Nations chairman. On the other hand, within the Government there are few illusions about the chances of an agreed solution being produced, although



President Nasser of the United Arab Republic (left) and Sir Harold Beeley, Britain's representative, during discussions before Sir Harold's return to London.

Britain's assistance is welcomed. Soviet and American supremacy is acknowledged, even if the notion that the two super powers can by themselves stabilize the Middle East below the nuclear threshold is dismissed as an American dream.

The allegation that the United States took an active part on Israel's side in June is now seen as irrelevant, because everyone is certain that the Americans would have intervened on Israel's side had it become necessary. No doubt they are right in this, but another widely held view, that the Americans could have stopped Israel attacking on June 5, is more debatable. Its corollary, that the United States can direct Israel's diplomacy in the postwar negotiations, is generally espoused and has led to a deep suspicion of American motives.

Efforts to reduce birthrate

One highly influential Egyptian, describing what had happened since May as "America's moral Suez", told me he thought no great power had ever suffered such loss of prestige and influence in any area of the world as the United States had done in the Middle East.

He may have exaggerated to make a point, but exasperation with Washington is intense and President Johnson is often accused of seeking economic domination of the area and of trying to destroy Arab nationalism. His action in using wheat supplies to exert political pressure on President Nasser is fiercely resented and is contrasted with what is said to be the Soviet Union's clean record in this respect.

The Russians, for their part, took their knocks during and after the June war, in which they failed to come to the military aid of Egypt; but the readiness with which they have begun again to supply the armed forces has recovered them much lost ground. President Nasser sees Mr. Sergei Vinogradov, the new Soviet Ambassador, almost daily now and the Russians are undoubted champions of the Arab cause in New York.

No doubt Soviet control within the Egyptian armed forces has been strengthened, but some sophisticated weapons are to be glimpsed around Cairo, while up river the Aswan dam continues to grow and its Russian turbines are undergoing successful testing at present.

Upon their success and upon the water to be stored by the dam a great deal depends in the race to keep the country's growth rate ahead of its birthrate. This year the outlook is unpromising. The birth control programme, which has fitted 60,000 inter-uterine devices and distributed the pill to half a million women, can hardly be expected to show results until 1970.

It has been disrupted by the compulsory movement of hundreds of thousands of people from the Canal Zone, but it is still hoped to achieve the aim of reducing the birthrate from 2.7 to 2 per cent by the early 1970s. Put another way, this means keeping the population to 40 million by 1985, instead of the 52 million which it would attain at the present rate.

If the war has only slightly affected this programme, its immediate impact on the economic growth rate is likely to be much more serious. The cost of requipping the forces has forced a cut in investment of £E157m. (about £126m.) in the financial year that began on July 1. The drop is from £E405m. (£326m.) last year to £E248m. (£200m.) this year and it will play havoc with the rate of growth which in real income, taking 1959-60 as the base year, has been averaging 6.5 per cent a year.

Government economy programme

The Ministry of Planning now acknowledges that this year the rate may actually fall below the birthrate so that the country will not even be staying where it is but will actually be falling back. This is perhaps the starkest reality that the Egyptians face, but it is as yet being only hinted at in higher taxes, price increases, a drop in the amount of subsidized rations and a policy of rigid governmental economy, which has resulted in a 25 per cent cut in the allowances received by military officers and civilian government workers in addition to their basic salary.

What will be the end result nobody knows. The Egyptian people have suffered much in the struggle to develop and perhaps they are willing to suffer more. They lack much that is necessary besides money. Their leader has wasted much in disruptive adventures abroad but if he has now genuinely decided to retrench, his people have shown enough resolution to deserve some of the help they will undoubtedly need.

Egyptians face the realities of defeat.
From NICHOLAS HERBERT, Middle East Correspondent

The Times (London, England),Monday, Oct 23, 1967; pg. 8; Issue 57079.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS134442327

NEW DANGERS OF WAR

There is a predictable conflict of evidence about how the Israel destroyer Eilat was sunk. The Egyptians say it was intercepted by two of their missile-carrying launches as it crossed the twelve-mile territorial waters limit and that the launches attacked the Eilat because it was preparing to attack them. The Israelis say that the Eilat was not in Egyptian waters and that the three missiles which hit it came from an Egyptian ship anchored in Port Said, fourteen miles away.

Whatever the truth may be the gravity of the incident needs no emphasizing. Ships of one navy do not sink ships of another unless they are at war or spoiling to start a war. There is supposed to be a cease-fire between Egypt and Israel and the United Nations are on the spot to observe and reprove infringements of it. There have been many infringements back and forth across the Suez Canal, causing heavy losses of life. It could be argued that the sinking of the Eilat is just another infringement in a different place. But there is a vast difference in scale between shelling across the Canal, or attacks on small boats in the Canal, and what is in effect almost the biggest naval engagement between the two countries in their twenty years of hostility.

This incident comes at a time when government and public opinion in both countries is seriously split over policy. Both have their hawks and doves, and it is possible that a clash at sea (who really provoked it?) represents hawks on one side or both sides getting on top. In any case the effect of the sinking will certainly be to make it much harder for any doves anywhere to be listened to. It has made the Israeli public understandably bellicose. They won the war and the Egyptians lost it, and as they see it the Egyptians are sheltering behind the United Nations, to go on with their attacks. The temptation to hit the Egyptians harder will be very strong. Israel hoped for two things as a result of the war—recognition of her existence by the Arabs, and more defensible frontiers. If she cannot get the first she will concentrate on the second. A new round of fighting leading to fresh territorial conquests by Israel is likely.

Likely, but even from Israel's point of view the worst possible outcome. There are influential Egyptians—and PRESIDENT NASSER is reported to be among them—who realize that some accommodation with Israel will have to be made, and who have been preparing a long period of hard bargaining. If there is now another round of fighting, Egypt—and the other Arabs too perhaps—may be pushed back farther and more of its armaments destroyed, but this will only encourage those Arabs who argue that they must take any punishment rather than negotiate.

There will now be millions of Arabs delighted at what they must regard as the effectiveness of Russian help and Russian weapons. There will be loud Israeli demands for more effective help from the west. The only useful consequence of the Eilat affair would be if it revived the waning interest of Russians and Americans in a joint approach to the Middle East's dangers. They have had a blunt warning of how acute these dangers still are and how directly they are involved in them.

New Dangers Of War.
The Times (London, England),Monday, Oct 23, 1967; pg. 9; Issue 57079.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS151481687

Israel's warning to Egypt

Cease-fire agreement in jeopardy

The United Nations cease-fire agreement in the Middle East was in jeopardy last night as angry Israelis demanded retaliation against Egypt for sinking an Israel destroyer on Saturday. The United States are reported to have counselled Israel not to take military action.

TEL AVIV, Oct. 23.—General Moshe Dayan, Israel Defence Minister, said tonight that President Nasser resumed hostilities with Israel when he ordered the missile attack on the destroyer Eilat on Saturday.

General Dayan compared the sinking of the Eilat to President Nasser's action in closing the Strait of Tiran exactly five months ago.

He said: "Since the destroyer was 14 miles from the Egyptian coast there was no reason for the attack except one—the desire to resume hostilities, like five months ago.

"We, too, will know how to move step after step as we did then."

He added: "It is not difficult to violate the cease-fire and to fire. The (Suez) Canal is only 150 yards wide, but we have accepted the cease-fire and lived according to its rules."

Ten thousand mourners at the funeral of five of the Eilat victims heard Brigadier Shlomo Errel, the naval commander, declare in Haifa today: "The blood our comrades shed will not be forgotten, the account with the enemy will be settled."

General Itzhak Rabin, the Chief of Staff, was also present as the five sailors were buried with full military honours.

General Rabin also visited the 48 men wounded in Saturday's attack, which killed 17 of the crew and left another 28 missing.

Brigadier Aluf Yitzhak, captain of the Eilat, today told how his crew opened fire with anti-aircraft guns in a vain attempt to divert two Soviet-built missiles homing on to his vessel off the Sinai coast on Saturday.

Terrific impact

The missiles, fired by Egyptian missile ships from Port Said, ripped into the vessel within seconds of each other to be followed by a third which sent her to the bottom.

The first missile hit the boiler room in the heart of the ship with a terrific impact, the captain said.

Orders had been given to pump the water out when the second missile struck the engine room, power installations and the boilers, paralysing the whole ship.

CAIRO, Oct. 23.—A Soviet military delegation, headed by Marshal Sokholov, Deputy Minister of Defence, has arrived here, the semi-official daily *Al Ahram* reported today.

The newspaper did not disclose the object of the visit but in Tel Aviv, Israel newspapers said that it indicated increased Russian control over the Egyptian armed forces as well as an increase in Soviet arms aid.—*Agence France Presse* and *Reuter*.

Our Cairo Correspondent writes:—The Eilat was less than 10 miles from Egyptian defensive positions on the east bank of the Suez Canal and 11 miles from Port Said when Egyptian rocket ships fired on her, Major-General Mustafa Kamel, a military spokesman, said in Cairo this afternoon.

He considered that the Eilat was proceeding on an aggressive course. An Israel aircraft was over Port Said at the time.

General Kamel refused to give the firing range, but said he did not think the rocket ships moved far from Port Said harbour. He said that Egyptian crews did the firing.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—The United States reportedly counselled Israel today not to take military action in reprisal for Egypt's sinking of the Israeli destroyer Eilat on Saturday.

Mr. Dean Rusk, the Secretary of State, and Israel's Foreign Minister, Mr. Abba Eban, discussed the incident during a 55-minute meeting here.—*New York Times News Service.*

Shadow over talks, and picture, page 5; special article, page 11.

Science Report

Nature-Times News Service, today, reports (page 9) on dating the Pleistocene period quasars, and hopping mice.

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Israel's warning to Egypt.
The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Oct 24, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 57080.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS18443608



Lieutenant-General Muhammad Fawzi, Commander-in-Chief of the Egyptian armed forces (head of the table), talking in Cairo with naval officers whose missile boats sank the Israel destroyer Eilat. The officers are (left to right): Captain Mahmoud Fahmi, Captain Ahmed Shaker and First Lieutenant Massam Amin.

South Arabia appeal to Nasser

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

ADEN, OCT. 23

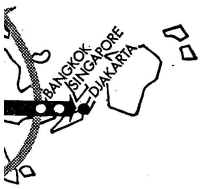
Senior officers of the South Arabian Army and the police command today sent an urgent telegram to President Nasser, asking him to use his influence with the leaders of the Front for the Liberation of Occupied South Yemen (Flosy) and the National Liberation Front (N.L.F.) to speed up the formation of a government to take over from Britain in South Arabia after independence.

In their telegram, sent after a meeting, the officers reiterated that they recognized only Flosy and the N.L.F. as representatives of the people of South Arabia.

"We are anxious that the two Fronts should speedily form a government to prevent a critical situation from exploding suddenly, resulting in renewed civil conflict", they added.

They also requested President Nasser to pass on the contents of their cable to the Flosy and N.L.F. leaders, who have been having talks in Cairo for nearly a fortnight.

The absence of any progress reports on their talks is causing much uneasiness, which was heightened by last Friday's press conference by 40 pro-Flosy officers who indirectly attacked the N.L.F., and accused Britain of fighting Flosy in South Arabia.



EILAT SHADOW ON CAIRO TALKS

BY OUR DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The sinking of the Israel destroyer Eilat has clearly been a heavy blow to rising British hopes that a settlement of the Middle East crisis might be set in train before long.

A Foreign Office spokesman said yesterday: "This incident is one in a long series which we profoundly regret, especially with the loss of life involved. Against this background the British Government have been working hard with others towards a general settlement. We hope this incident will not prejudice these efforts."

From less official comment yesterday it was obvious that the fear in Whitehall is precisely that this incident will in fact prejudice the progress it was hoped had begun to be made during Sir Harold Beeley's visit last week to Cairo.

Need for realism

The statements being made by each side are admittedly conflicting but, on the basis that someone in a senior position deliberately fired the missiles which sank the Eilat, nothing, it is argued, could have been more stupid.

It leaves Israel in a position in which either she will hit back, or, if more sane counsels prevail, she is left standing before the United Nations under no pressure, or at least feeling no obligation, to make concessions herself towards a settlement. This would be just when, after the Khartum meeting and the much more realistic Arab attitude which resulted from it, it was Israel's turn to be realistic herself.

The incident itself should not necessarily prejudice the progress made during Sir Harold Beeley's talks towards a resumption of diplomatic relations between Britain and Egypt.

Sir Harold reported to Mr. George Brown, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday morning. He was later preparing to fly back to Geneva to his post as deputy head of the British delegation to the disarmament conference.

Economic aid

Sir Humphrey Trevelyan, the British High Commissioner in Aden, who also returned to London on Sunday, was also in conference at the Foreign Office yesterday. The shooting last week of a British information officer and other terrorist incidents clearly call into question the policy of aid to the future government of South Arabia.

Sir Humhprey's review of the situation during his talks in London is likely, therefore, to decide both a date for withdrawal not later than January 9, and whether or not the offer of £60m. in economic aid over the next four years will be maintained. It had been offered on the basis that the future government would be reasonably friendly to British interests.

Israel considers retaliation

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

TEL AVIV, OCT. 23

The Israel Government have been playing their cards close to the chest since the sinking of the destroyer off Port Said on Saturday.

A decision has been taken "not to put up with it", but there is no indication about what is to be done and when. Observers here feel the time for an immediate retaliation on a commensurate scale has passed, and an over-reaction to the next minor incident appears more likely. The attitude here is that it is up to the Egyptians whether there is to be a cease-fire or not, and that if they have decided against it, they must be made to pay.

Some observers thought the visit of the Soviet military mission to Cairo might be deterring Israel at present. There has been some speculation here about the extent of Soviet involvement in Saturday's incident.

Venus 'like hell-hole', US says

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

WASHINGTON, OCT. 23

A visitor to the surface of the planet Venus would have the impression that he was in a hole above which the sun never set, according to information gathered by the United States Mariner V space probe.

Details of the findings, which in general bore out those gathered by the Soviet Union's Venus IV last week, were released today by scientists at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California.

Dr. von R. Eshleman, a spokesman for the laboratory, said of the planet: "It's not just a hole, but a hell-hole. It's like hell in terms of temperature." A visitor, he said, would appear to be in a hole and the sun would travel round with him. This effect, he explained, came from the heavy density of the atmosphere.

While the Russians had reported that winds of six times hurricane force whipped across the surface of Venus, the American scientists said that they had learned little about the circulation of the planet's atmosphere except that it seemed to circulate at a very rapid rate.

No direct evidence of a planetary magnetic field was found by Mariner V.



Eilat Shadow On Cairo Talks.
BY OUR DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Oct 24, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57080.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS84503896



Why Israel will not give ground

By HUGH THOMAS

The sinking of the Eilat over the weekend seems a rather desperate act of defiance intended to raise internal Egyptian morale rather than to inflict any serious damage on Israel.

A recent journey to Israel including an extensive tour of the newly occupied territories left the impression that, like it or not, the Israeli position is now really rather stronger than has been generally appreciated. The Israeli Government is convinced that it is able to refuse to make any withdrawal until the Arab governments sit down with her at a peace conference. The Israelis consider that there is no economic pressure and no military force (except the Russian or U.S. armies, whose arrival is improbable) which is strong enough to make them abandon either this tough line or their complete reluctance to accept the paper pledges of any great power or the U.N., which have proved unreliable in the past. If the Arabs are not ready to sit down and talk directly (and who can imagine it ?), then the present armistice lines will be allowed slowly to harden into frontiers, as indeed the 1949 lines did.

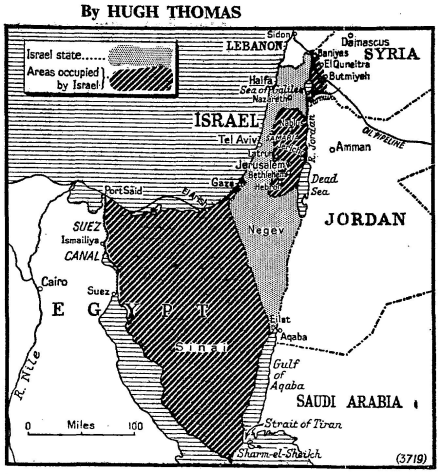
The strength of the Israeli position is economic as well as strategic. But the most important change is less the amount of territory conquered than the fact that Israel's frontiers have been cut by a third. The frontiers with Jordan and Egypt, as well as being shorter, now follow easily maintained boundaries—the Suez Canal and the River Jordan. The frontier with Syria is slightly longer than before but is now well on the other side of the old Syrian fortifications and stretches across the edge of the high Syrian plain. Further, whereas in the past Jordan and Egypt were within a short distance of Tel Aviv (and, of course, of Israeli Jerusalem), with Syria dominating the Israeli settlements in northern Galilee, the Israelis are now only 80 miles, at Ismailiya, from Cairo and 30 miles or so from Amman and Damascus, at Jericho and El Quneitra respectively. These strategic gains are so enormous that as time passes the security that they afford will no doubt come to seem indispensable, even though in March or April the 1949 armistice lines might have been grudgingly accepted as workable, inevitable and, in practice, permanent.

The newly occupied areas also offer some far from negligible economic prizes. The conquest of the Syrian Heights gives to Israel not only the famous labyrinth of Syrian fortifications but the unfinished cutting by which Syria was attempting to divert the Baniyas stream, which constitutes one of the main feeds of the Jordan: the source of the Baniyas is itself now in Israeli hands. Israel also has now a new 10 mile position along the Yarmuk river to which the Baniyas was supposed to be diverted and which also played the key role in Jordan's irrigation schemes. In addition, the bleak Syrian Heights include much good wheat-growing land and their retention could perhaps render Israel self-sufficient in wheat. Finally, so far as Syria is concerned, Israel holds 30 miles of the Trans-Arabian underground oil pipeline which runs up from the Persian Gulf; thus, theoretically, the Jews as well as the Arabs could now cut off Western Europe's oil, and not only at the Suez Canal.

EASIER FOR PILGRIMS

Sinai at the same time has the immense attraction that the oil wells off Suez can make Israel an oil exporting country, instead of an oil importing one. The other potentialities of Sinai are not impressive (apart, perhaps, from some magnesite) but in the coastal region around El Arish there is good soil, as was evident to the proponents of the early Zionist scheme for settlement there, though at the moment, with apparent over-pumping of water in the Gaza area (and salt water seeping into the fresh water reserves), little immediate possibility of adequate water. As for the West Bank of the Jordan valley, this was important in the past for tourism and for the winter vegetables and dairy produce which were sent to Amman, if Israel were in fact to hold on there, pilgrim tourism would be much easier than in the past, busloads of pilgrims being able to drive directly south from Nazareth and Galilee through Samaria to a united Jerusalem and then to Bethlehem and, for the energetic, Hebron. Lastly, the now deserted moonscape of Judea might, once again given water, be resettled with a new generation of Kibbutz settlers, if they became available.

The results of a census of the occupied areas have now been made public. This found that the total new Arab population of all the occupied areas is rather over a million, of whom about 70,000 were in east Jerusalem (not technically recognized as an " occupied area ", having been fully merged with Israeli Jerusalem); 600,000 people were found to be on the west bank, 6,400 on the Syrian Heights, 350,000 in the Gaza Strip (120,000 in the city of Gaza and 175,000 in refugee camps) and 33,000 in Sinai, mostly in El Arish. The census makers also consider that the number of new refugees from the West Bank now in Jordan must be about 150,000 (compared with the figure of 200,000 estimated by *The Times* of October 9). If these figures are correct, and, despite a marked discrepancy with the most recent Egyptian estimate for the Gaza Strip, there seems no reason to suppose that they are not, this means that, with the addition of the 300,000 Arabs living in Israel before the war, there are now 1,385,000 Arabs (including Druses, who constitute most of the 6,400 on the Syrian Heights) under Israeli control, compared with 2,365,000 Jews.



These proportions clearly are not, as I say, now acceptable to the vast majority of Israeli Jews. Indeed, even before the war there had been a nine-day panic when it had been predicted that with the old Arab population in pre-June Israel of 300,000, the swift rate of Arab reproduction would create an Arab majority in Israel by the end of the century. The census statistics for the occupied areas lend weight to this apprehension.

These demographic facts necessarily ensure that if and when the Arab governments come to the conference table, Israel would, without much doubt (though with much criticism from extremists), be prepared to give back the lion's share of what she occupied in the first week of June. (This lion's share, however, would certainly not include east Jerusalem, almost certainly not the Latrun salient, nor the Gaza Strip and probably not the Syrian Heights; nor evidently would Israel accept anything short of full rights of free passage through the Suez Canal and the Gulf of Aqaba, along with recognition of her permanent existence as a state.)

In default of a conference and a permanent settlement, it is clear that because of the problem of Arab population, there will be increasing support in Israel for one or other of the, at first sight, rather curious schemes for an autonomous Arab state of Palestine to be set up under Israeli protection and concentrated on the West Bank. Thus one section of the Israeli Cabinet and many officials believe the solution to the " problem of the West Bank " as a demilitarized state to be concentrated, as the present Arab settlements and towns in the region are, on the west side of the watershed of the hills of Samaria (the section of the area which gets most rain).

This would still leave to Israel a long corridor 15 miles wide along the Jordan itself, in the now deserted but apparently potentially prosperous desert of Judaea, where, it is somewhat wildly hoped, given a radical though scarcely impossible switch in Russian policy, some of the three million Russian Jews might be encouraged to reproduce what their cousins and predecessors did elsewhere in Palestine. Meantime, in " Arab Palestine " a number of the Gaza and Jordan refugees—though not all of them—might be helped to resettle, making for a society of perhaps 900,000 Arabs, with a capital at Nablus, in an area of about 1,500 square miles. This " state " would be demilitarized (like Austria) and have access to the sea at Haifa and ideally to Amman, if Jordan were to agree. Israel proper would absorb, meantime, Gaza and the Arab towns in the Gaza Strip as well as East Jerusalem, and just possibly Hebron and Bethlehem, where there are many Christian Arabs, who are thought by some to be willing, if pressed, to join Israel for commercial reasons.

This scheme may seem far-fetched as well as highly discriminatory, but it is quite likely that in the short run Israel could get a number of Arab leaders to cooperate.

The whole of this West Bank is today in a state less of tension—though this will perhaps grow while its future remains unsettled—than of psychological shock. Many of these people have in the past been listening to a great deal of bloody propaganda and it is a matter of shocked surprise to some of them no doubt that the Jews have not turned out as the rapists and murderers whom they had been led to expect. Some Arabs of Gaza and the West Bank have been able to travel about with passes to visit their relations in Israel and for the first time since 1949 Arabs from Gaza have visited the West Bank.

In fact it is likely that a failure by the Arabs to negotiate peace now will simply lead to the slow acceptance of the armistice lines of June, 1967, as the permanent frontiers of Israel; probably to the development of an Israel nuclear deterrent; and to a permanent conventional threat posed by Israel to the main Arab capitals, so that the renewal of war would be as likely to find Israel in Cairo and Damascus as Egypt in Tel Aviv. It is hard to imagine that the sullen frontier passages which now constitute the border between Israel and her neighbours could ever see a viable Arab conventional offensive. There may be a risk of guerrilla activity in Israel directed from Syria, but could this be any worse or more effective than what occurred before, with smaller frontiers ?

In the long run no doubt the most promising thing, in default of a peace settlement, would be for Israel to take a deep breath and boldly accept the maximum territory and the maximum number of Arabs. Although the idea for an Arab autonomous state seems more likely to gain support in Israel at the moment, it is anyway obvious that a considerable number of Arabs are likely to be added to Israel, whatever happens: the 70,000 Arabs of east Jerusalem, and 175,000 non-refugees from the Gaza Strip, making a total of at least 550,000 Arabs—well over 20 per cent of the population, regardless of what happens to any of the refugees. This percentage perhaps represents the best hope of peaceful dialogue in the Middle East, if indeed anyone really wants it.

This last remark is made without any particular desire to provoke but the fact is that belligerency, and fairly frequently war, has been such a characteristic of the Middle East for so long that it is hard to imagine that anyone has really thought what the consequences of even relative peace would be.

Why Israel will not give ground.
By HUGH THOMAS

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Oct 24, 1967; pg. 11; Issue 57080.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS185953624

Suez oil refineries set on fire

Israel and Egyptian guns in Canal duel

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—CAIRO, OCT. 24

Large areas of Suez town were on fire tonight after Israel guns had carefully selected oil refineries and tank farms and other industrial targets for artillery attack.

Israel artillery early this afternoon opened fire on oil storage depots and port installations south of Suez town and also on oil storage tanks in Suez itself, an Egyptian military spokesman said.

United Nations observers finally managed to arrange a cease-fire after four and a half hours of heavy shelling by both sides. The Egyptian Military Command claimed that an Israel Mirage jet fighter, a helicopter, 10 tanks, four armoured cars and five rocket launchers were destroyed, among a long list of other Israel equipment.

The United Arab Republic admitted to three soldiers killed and five wounded, and one tank hit. Civilian casualties were given as three killed and 37 wounded, four critically.

Our Tel Aviv Correspondent writes:

According to information here two of Egypt's three refineries are at Suez and they process 80 per cent of the petroleum refined in Egypt.

Claim denied

Some Israelis who had been forecasting a retaliatory action against Egypt for the sinking of the destroyer Eilat considered the attack on the refineries to be the awaited punitive action, but Army headquarters here said it occurred during a typical border encounter, which, they maintained, had been started by the Egyptians.

An Egyptian claim that an Israel military aircraft had been shot down was denied here by Army headquarters, which said no aircraft had been involved in the fighting.

Schools hit

CAIRO, Oct. 24.—An Egyptian military spokesman said three oil storage tanks were ablaze in Suez. Other tanks at the oil refineries were still in flames late tonight. Fire also broke out in a chemical fertilizer factory, but was confined and put out. Many houses and two schools were hit by Israel shells.

CAIRO, Oct. 24.—Eye-witnesses returning to Cairo tonight reported that fires were spreading over a 10-square-mile area of Suez. They said flames were leaping "thousands of feet" in the air.—*New York Times News Service.*

U.N. meeting called, page 4.

Secrets staff will not be searched

BY OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

For the second time in two years, the Government has rejected a suggestion from the Security Commission that only search procedures for civil servants "offer any real prospect of providing a better safeguard for documents".

The suggestion was made in the commission's report, published yesterday, on the case of Miss Helen Mary Keenan, a temporary typist in the Cabinet Office, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for offences under the Official Secrets Act.

The commission says it remains convinced that no material improvement can be made in guarding against amateur operations, without the added deterrent of knowledge of the possibility of encountering some form of search.

Secrets case girl's gay life, page 2.

ON OTHER PAGES

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The Times

Suez oil refineries set on fire.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Oct 25, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 57081.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS18181465

Suez dispute at Security Council

FROM OUR UNITED NATIONS CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK, OCT. 24

The United Nations Security Council met tonight to consider a complaint by Egypt about today's "new, premeditated and flagrant aggression by Israel", involving the "concentrated shelling of the city area of Suez".

Just before the meeting began, Israel also called on the Security Council to consider "open aggression" by Egypt culminating in today's firing across the Suez Canal.

The United Arab Republic Note asserted that Israel's action could not be considered as anything less than a full-scale military operation, "amounting to an act of war against a member state".

Severe damage

It further alleged that the action could not be called a retaliation for the sinking of the Israel destroyer Eilat "within U.A.R. territorial waters", because it amounted to a sustained attack against civil and industrial installations, and not against military targets.

The artillery shelling of the city of Suez, the U.A.R. Note went on, had resulted in "extensive human losses and severe damage to the city which was almost demolished". Among the places shelled were the petroleum refineries in Suez, the N.A.S.A.R. plant for fertilizer, and harbour installations, all of which were "completely or severely damaged".

Middle East to get U S arms

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

WASHINGTON, OCT. 24

The State Department today announced a partial lifting of the restrictions of American arms to the Middle East to permit military aircraft to be sent to Israel, Libya, and Morocco, and other items to Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and Tunisia.

Mr. Robert McCloskey, the department's spokesman, emphasized that the step was "not in any sense an open-ended decision nor an opening of the flood-gates". It had been taken in part because it was realized that the Soviet Union would supply the needed equipment to the Arab nations if the United States did not.

As a result of the decision, made some time ago, Israel would receive Douglas Skyhawk attack bombers, as well as other equipment. Jordan, which in the past has looked to the United States and Britain for military equipment, was not included, but Mr. McCloskey said that Jordan's case was still "under consideration".

Mr. Abba Eban, the Israel Foreign Minister, met President Johnson for an hour this evening for a discussion of the Middle East situation before he left Washington to attend the United Nations Security Council meeting in New York. On his departure from the White House, Mr. Eban told me that he and the President had had "a thorough and comprehensive exchange of views" on the latest crisis. He declined to give any further details of their conversation.

Negotiations plea for U S scholars

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK, OCT. 24

A group of 2,500 American academics called for a negotiated peace in the Middle East in an advertisement published today in the *New York Times*.

They include two Nobel laureates, Dr. Felix Bloch and Dr. Arthur Kornberg, both of Stanford University. The chairman is Dr. Albert Sabin, and other notable names include Hannah Arendt, Simon Bauer, Arthur Burns, Buell Gallagher, Harry Gideonse, Irving Horovitz, Seymour Lipset, Hans Morgenthau, Clinton Rossiter, Lionel Trilling, and Mark van Doren.

The text says that 20 years of Arab refusal to meet with Israel at the conference table have resulted in three wars, each a potential threat to world peace.

"The solution to the problem is not to be found by soldiers in 'another round', but by representatives of the countries concerned at the conference table", it adds.

Suez dispute at Security Council.
FROM OUR UNITED NATIONS CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Oct 25, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57081.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67726681



" Well, I suppose our first task is to establish who provoked whom."

EGYPTIANS COUNT SUEZ COST

From COLIN CHAPMAN—Suez, Oct. 25

A dense pall of smoke, with tongues of flame flickering in 100ft. dragon-like bursts to the sky, is virtually all that is left today of the Nasr refinery.

Next door 12 storage tanks of the Suez Oil Company refinery are also ablaze, spreading an orange glow over 30 miles of surrounding desert.

Mercifully for Egypt, the production plant of this refinery is still intact, although it will be some time before it is in use again. The refineries have a combined value of about £150m.

In Suez the Egyptians are counting the cost of the three hours of non-stop shelling yesterday, which killed three people, injured 59, and scored direct hits on the harbour, mosque, school, and houses.

In revenge for the Eilat's sinking on Saturday, Israel struck a carefully aimed blow at the Egyptian economy as savage as anything in the June war. An Egyptian officer said: "It is easy to replace planes and tanks, but you cannot build a refinery in a few days."

The refineries provide Egypt with 80 per cent of its oil production. Ninety per cent of the output of these two refineries, four or five miles from the canal bank, flows by pipeline to Cairo. But if the blow is severe it is not mortal. There is one more refinery at Alexandria, and if Egypt's allies have anything they have oil.

In Cairo it is felt that the loss of the refinery means that the Suez Canal is now destined to stay shut for a long time to come.

SUEZ Oct. 25.—The authoritative newspaper *Al Ahram* in Cairo today carried a report that Soviet naval units were due in Port Said tomorrow on a friendly visit.—*Reuter.*

South Arabia expecting new date

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

ADEN, OCT. 25

The South Arabia National Front for Liberation of Occupied South Yemen (N.L.F.) would be ready to receive South Arabia's independence from Britain should she decide to grant it earlier than the scheduled date of next January 9, Abdullah al Khameri, a member of the N.L.F. general command, told journalists today in Zingibar.

It is widely expected here that Sir Humphrey Trevelyan, the British High Commissioner, on his return from London, will announce a new date for independence to spur the leaders of N.L.F. and Flosy (Front for the Liberation of Occupied South Yemen) to reach early agreement on the formation of a government.

Egyptians Count Suez Cost.
From COLIN CHAPMAN

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Oct 26, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57082.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67988826

Lesson satisfies Israelis

From MOSHE BRILLIANT, Tel Aviv, Oct. 25

After their devastation of Egypt's big industrial complex in Suez yesterday, the Israelis appear satisfied that they have made their point and that the situation on the Israel-Arab borders can now return to normal.

Israel forces involved in yesterday's three-hour artillery duel across the southern end of the Suez Canal held their fire today, and dismissed sporadic Egyptian shots across the waterway as trigger-happiness. The Egyptians also fired anti-aircraft guns during the morning, and the Israelis said the gunners may have shot at one of their own aircraft, as there were no Israel aircraft about.

The soldiers in Sinai looked across the waterway at the pillar of cloud—reminiscent of the one that the Bible says their ancestors saw while crossing the desert in their flight from Egyptian bondage—and hoped the blasting of the refineries and other industrial enterprises would induce the Egyptians to refrain from inviting further punishment.

The sinking on Saturday of the destroyer Eilat, with a loss of 47 lives, was the greatest Arab victory over Israel in 20 years, and the feeling here was that a massive response was necessary to deflate the Egyptians and shatter any illusions that might have arisen.

The Israelis insist that the Egyptians at Port Ibraihim started the shooting, but there is no denying that the action at Suez took into account the sinking of the Eilat.

The Israelis regard the cease-fire arrangement as advantageous to them, since the truce lines are far from the border settlements harassed by the Arabs for 19 years. Now Arab cities are vulnerable. The shelling of Suez was designed to convince President Nasser that it would be prudent to observe the cease-fire.

King Husain at the Elysee

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

PARIS, OCT. 25

King Husain of Jordan had three-quarters of an hour alone with General de Gaulle and an interpreter this afternoon, after lunching with the General at the Elysée. Eleven people were present at the luncheon, including M. Couve de Murville, the French Foreign Minister.

Lesson satisfies Israelis.
From MOSHE BRILLIANT, Tel Aviv, Oct. 25

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Oct 26, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57082.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68119898

TIMES PAST
THE TIMES
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HALF A CEASE-FIRE

Everybody—not least the Egyptians—expected the Israelis to hit back after their destroyer Eilat had been sunk last Saturday. But nobody—certainly not the Egyptians—can be sure that retaliation is now over. By any eye for eye standard, knocking out perhaps half Egypt's oil refining capacity and killing a good number of civilians might be thought equal to the loss of a destroyer with forty-five members of its crew. On the other hand, the present mood in Israel may not be satisfied with what looks in a way like only a large scale version of the cross-Canal firing that has been going on for a long time. The Israelis may yet hit back harder somewhere else. These grim calculations reflect the hopelessness of the present situation, where a cease-fire is used by both sides to build up their armaments and not to negotiate.

The position would be slightly less hopeless if the motives of either Egyptians or Israelis were clear and consistent. But they are not. The affair of the Eilat remains extremely odd. Israel insists that the sinking was a deliberate provocation, an act of war; Egypt that the Eilat was " on an aggressive course ". It is quite possible that since June all Arab commands have been obsessed with a fear of being once again caught off their guard, and that they were ordered, when in doubt, to open fire. Tension had been mounting in the Suez Canal zone—indeed, in the whole Middle East—during the past few weeks. There had been a lot of talk about another round of fighting. Each side suspected the other of planning to start it. What has happened is just as likely to be the result of nervous reflexes on both sides of the cease-fire line as a carefully planned and timed assault.

It is obviously much easier to start an exchange of violence such as the last week has seen than to stop it. The Arabs everywhere have been much heartened by the Eilat sinking. They take it as proof that they are far from being a crushed people on whom terms can be imposed. Israel feels obliged not to let this mood of Arab elation grow. Hence the need for a distinct military counter-blow, or for a diplomatic success, or both.

The Security Council is now quite properly trying to face the situation. It is not likely to get anywhere if it tries to agree on who is to blame for this latest trouble; its immediate function is rather to restore, extend, and exploit the cease-fire arranged in June. The best way in which the second phase of the cease-fire could be made less ineffective than the first would be to hasten the dispatch of a strong representative of the SECRETARY-GENERAL to the area. Although the parallel is not exact, this was what gave meaning to the 1948 armistice.

Such a mission might be able to pick up such threads of conciliation as exist. Arab and Israel representatives might be able to meet under its auspices. The Israelis could take this as the direct negotiations they want; the Arabs could emphasize the United Nations context. In the absence of any such mission the present U.N. observers on the spot are going to remain incapable of doing more than watch the shells falling round them. It is still a reasonable calculation that Egypt and Israel want some form of accommodation rather than an escalation of the fighting. But this calculation will not necessarily remain true, as there are Arabs and Israelis who would prefer to keep the U.N. out.

Half A Cease-Fire.
The Times (London, England),Thursday, Oct 26, 1967; pg. 11; Issue 57082.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS184773978

RUSSIA CLAIMS IT SAVED EGYPT

Naval role in Middle East

BY OUR DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Soviet representatives in different capitals are claiming that it is Russian intervention which has saved Egypt from a fresh attack by Israel. They point to the imminent arrival of Soviet ships in Port Said and Alexandria, and say that before this Israel was preparing to mount a full-scale offensive along the Suez Canal.

This line—similar to Mr. Khrushchev's line about rockets on London in 1956—is obviously meant to have a strong impact among the Arabs. It remains rather thin, however.

Israel's decision to take massive retribution by destroying the refineries at Suez would seem to disprove any intention to launch any full-scale attack.

Nevertheless the facts are that the claim is now openly being made and that Soviet naval vessels are on the point of arrival at Port Said. What is important is that if the Israelis were to attack across the canal, Russia from now on would be directly involved. This, then, is a change in the Middle East situation. It is to be explained by the fact that Soviet diplomacy is still smarting from the appalling reverse of the June war, when, it is believed, some 32 Soviet officers, nominally "advisers" but in fact controlling units of the Syrian Army, were captured by the Israelis and then (except for three or four wounded men) released at once, since they seemed to the Israelis too hot, as it were, to hold. Until a short time ago the wounded officers were being treated secretly in Israel.

Clearly the Soviet Government may well have decided, after the loss also of vast stores of Soviet arms and equipment, that they had no choice but to restore the position of their Arab clients and that they must guard directly against a second reversal of the same kind.

Situation more tense

The change clearly makes the Middle East situation much more tense. It leaves the United Arab Republic uncomfortably dependent upon the Soviet Union, but protected from complete calamity. Since the status quo suits Israel as well as any solution which could be negotiated, the present situation could well harden along the June armistice lines just as happened with the armistice lines of 1948.

However, perhaps before the situation has become too rigid, it will be in the interests of the Arabs to force the issue, and press Israel to accept withdrawals. The Russians will not wish this to get so out of hand that a real confrontation between the Arabs and Israel, backed respectively by the Soviet Union and the United States, becomes inevitable, but it looks as though a campaign of subversion across Sinai and from Jordan and Syria could well come in the winter.

Russia Claims IT Saved Egypt.
BY OUR DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Friday, Oct 27, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57083.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68775259

Suez Canal closure costing Britain £20m monthly

MR. MARTEN (Banbury, C.) asked the Prime Minister for an assurance that no further financial aid would be given to Egypt until such time as the President of Egypt had opened the southern end of the canal and let out the ships which were trapped there?

MR. HAROLD WILSON (Huyton, Lab).—The Foreign Secretary has already taken up with the Egyptian Foreign Secretary the need for urgent action to open up the southern end, even in advance of what all of us want—a general opening of the canal to shipping of all nations.

I will certainly give consideration to what the hon. gentleman has said, but we have not seen any suggestion at all over financial aid to Egypt, and I think the other question is certainly more urgent than any settlement which would involve financial aid.

SIR ALEC DOUGLAS-HOME (Kinross and West Perth, C.).—Can we take it that no commitment has been made to anybody in South Arabia as to economic assistance following the withdrawal of British troops from Aden and South Arabia?

MR. WILSON.—That is a different question. We did undertake to the previous Government in South Arabia to provide certain aid, but of course there is now a new situation which we are considering.

SIR KNOX CUNNINGHAM (Antrim, South, U.U.) asked the Prime Minister what steps he had taken in consultation with the Prime Ministers of the Commonwealth and the President of the United States of American to ensure the unmolested use of the Suez Canal by international shipping.

MR. WILSON. — The House will recognize the acute difficulty we are facing in our efforts to get the Suez Canal open. We are in close and direct touch with all the Governments concerned, and also playing a full part in the United Nations consideration of this question.

Certainly, it is our view that any lasting settlement in the Middle East must provide for freedom of passage in international waterways for the ships of all nations.

It is, of course, intolerable (he said) that any nation should keep the canal closed to international shipping. It is also intolerable that any nation on either side should not co-operate in creating the conditions under which, with good will, this canal could be opened.

We have put forward proposals under which there could be a withdrawal from the canal, and an opening of the canal, and we could then move forward to studying some of the broader and more long standing issues, such as the right of all nations, including Israel to use the canal, and the refugee question. For people to insist on standing on their rights, to get what they want, I think would be intolerable.

'Pathetic irrelevance'

MR. HEATH (Bexley, C.) asked what was the cost per month to the British balance of payments caused by the closure of the canal.

MR. WILSON.—It is a serious cost, although I think that cost will shortly be diminished. I think I should answer the right hon. gentleman frankly—(cries of "Oh")—I think I could follow abundant precedent in both Governments and say that it is not in the national interest, but it is a fair question—that during the period of closure so far the cost to Britain has been something in the order of £20m. a month. That is the estimate we can make.

This will fall, even if the canal remains closed, because in the early months we had to buy a lot of very expensive oil in non-Middle East areas, and also because B.P., for example, who were very much under-tankered, had to charter large tankers at expensive rates. These rates are falling.

This figure will fall, but it is an intolerable cost to this country, just as it is to other countries.

MR. LUBBOCK (Orpington, L.).—In view of the fact that it has now become cheaper to take oil in 200,000 ton tankers around the Cape than it is in much smaller tankers through the Suez Canal, would it matter very much, in the long term if the canal remained closed permanently?

MR. WILSON.—It is not in our interest, and certainly not in Egypt's interest, to see the canal remain closed. At the same time, anyone who thinks we are in a position to be blackmailed by the continued closure of the canal is wrong. The continued growth of big tankers for oil traffic is making, very soon, the Suez Canal a rather pathetic irrelevance.

Certainly, it is the intention of the Government, as I indicated some months ago, to see that we take all measures necessary to get necessary oil to this country without being dependent on a canal which is subject to the political whims of the people on both sides.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

HOUSE OF LORDS

TODAY, AT 10.30

Prorogation.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

TODAY, AT 11

Prorogation.

Suez Canal closure costing Britain £20m monthly.
The Times (London, England),Friday, Oct 27, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57083.

Category: Politics and Parliament

Gale Document Number:CS101281115

Israel stands by cease-fire pact

Orders to Suez troops

From MICHAEL WOLFERS—Tel Aviv, Oct. 27

The sinking of the Israel destroyer Eilat by the Egyptians challenged the entire cease-fire agreement, General Moshe Dayan, Israel Defence Minister, said here today.

He declared at a press conference that it was a flagrant violation because the Eilat did not enter Egyptian territorial waters, approach Port Said, open fire or head for Egyptian positions.

In spite of this, Israel still regarded the cease-fire agreement as fully in force. It was in the interests of both parties to keep the agreement until something better, like a peace treaty, could be made.

General Dayan said he had visited Israel positions on Suez to check the orders and behaviour of Israel troops. The orders were that if the Egyptians opened fire sporadically Israel should not reply immediately, but wait in case the first firing was an accident or mistake.

Two wars still on

Asked if the destruction of the Suez oil refineries had been revenge for the Eilat, General Dayan said that this shelling came after the Egyptians had fired first in another exchange but "our soldiers probably looked for better targets". Replying to a question about the presence of Russian warships in Egyptian ports he said that Israel had no objection provided the Egyptians did not use the Russian presence as a cover to act against the cease-fire.

The cease-fire lines on the Syrian and Jordan fronts were being observed, but two wars were still being fought—the more dangerous one with the Syrian terrorist organization El Fatah, and the second with the resistance movement on the west bank of the Jordan.

Russian warships at Alexandria

ALEXANDRIA, Oct. 27.—Ships of the Soviet fleet, comprising two submarines, one frigate, and a communications ship, arrived here today for what the authoritative Cairo newspaper *Al Ahram* has described as a "cordial visit".

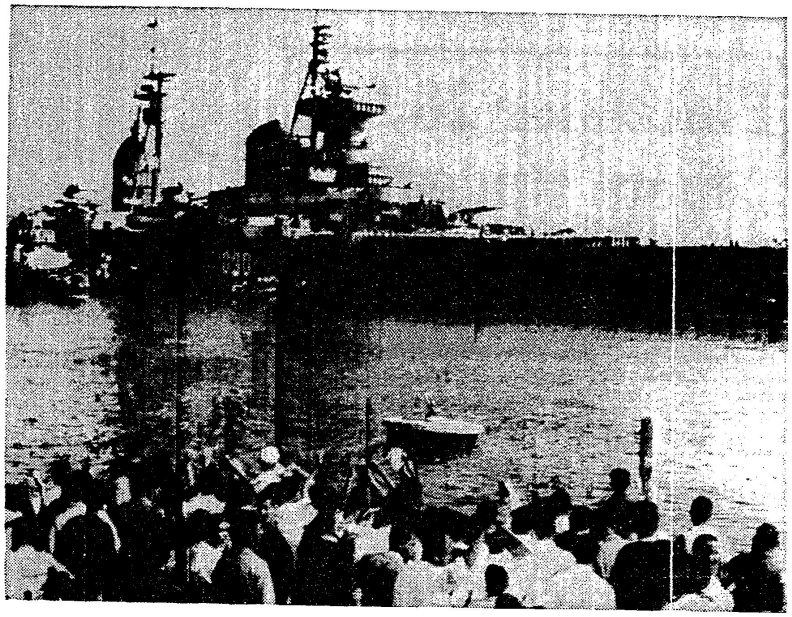
Other Soviet fleet units, including a cruiser and a troopship, arrived at Port Said.

The oil fires in the Suez refineries started by Israel shelling on Tuesday were extinguished today. The Egyptian Middle East News Agency said President Nasser had ordered honours and medals for all people who took part in the fire-fighting.

CAIRO, Oct. 27.—The editor of *Al Ahram*, Mohammad Hassanein Heykal, disclosed that 280 officers of the Egyptian Army have been cashiered since the June war.

Mr. Heykal said that Egypt must drop ideas of "total victory" over Israel. "It is no longer a question at the present stage of imposing our will on the enemy, but rather of preventing the enemy from imposing his on us.

"It is no longer a question of winning total victory, as we wanted to do before June 5, but rather of preventing the enemy from completing his victory."—*Reuter and Agence France Presse.*



Egyptians greeting a Soviet destroyer which arrived at Port Said yesterday with other Soviet warships. Several Russian vessels also arrived at Alexandria.

M REY: TIME FOR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Brussels, Oct. 27

The status of sterling represents a great opportunity for Europe, Lord Chalfont said here tonight at a dinner celebrating the twentieth birthday of the European League for Economic Cooperation.

Lord Chalfont virtually challenged France to adopt a truly European attitude on the currency question. Europe's own progress, he said, is in danger of being held up by the delay in

ters should be able to finish its discussions before the end of this year and negotiations could then begin. The Ministers' discussions must not be a substitute for negotiation. Solution to the many problems must be discussed with Great Britain and the other candidates.

In his view, solutions could be found and the European Community thus enlarged would be able to play its predestined part in the world not only in the commercial field but also in the economic and technological

Police in Madrid clashes

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MADRID, OCT. 27

Riot police broke up an attempted demonstration by several thousand workers and students around the Atocha railway station here tonight.

Supported by mounted police, the helmeted squads, carried out

Israel stands by cease-fire pact.
From MICHAEL WOLFERS

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Oct 28, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57084.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68250972

Nasser still hopes for UN action

Doubts on Suez oil position

From RAWLE KNOX—Cairo, Oct. 29

President Nasser has had a busy weekend with foreign diplomatists and members of his own Foreign Ministry trying to assess, in spite of U Thant's pessimism, what chance there may still be of a Security Council resolution on the Middle East to which the United Arab Republic can agree.

However, as her delegation at the United Nations has again been instructed not to accept any resolution that does not include an Israel withdrawal to the June 4 positions, the measure of uneasiness in Cairo is fairly obvious.

President Nasser knows that he can expect no such clear-cut statement from the Security Council and yet it is a Security Council resolution that he wants because it would be binding on the United States, which would be morally bound to put some pressure on Israel.

The United Arab Republic knows she can get plenty of support if the issue is referred back to the General Assembly but that it will be in words rather than action.

Army's deficiencies

In Cairo more and more people both in Government and business are talking about the need for "another round" with the Israelis. Yet this, too, is unrealistic, as is tacitly admitted.

The Israelis have got as far as they want, in spite of the occasional remarks by General Moshe Dayan, the Israel Defence Minister, about attacking Arab capitals, and the U.A.R. nowhere has an adequate offensive position. In Egypt there is still much Army regrouping and retraining to be done.

Usually at the end of the long coffee sessions the consensus is that the present stalemate may last a long time, a situation that neither suits the Arab temperament nor the Arab prospects of getting rid of the Israel presence.

The arrival of ships of the Russian Mediterranean Fleet at Alexandria and Port Said over the weekend has caused some jubilation, but is of no special significance. Egypt is now the main shore base for this fleet. It perhaps provides a certain negative defence.

After the sinking of the Israel destroyer Eilat, the U.A.R. naval authorities were convinced that Israel would try an attack on Port Said but that the discovery of one Russian naval tug, left behind there by the fleet, had decided Tel Aviv not to risk the diplomatic hazard.

Also this weekend Egyptian experts were assessing the losses to U.A.R. oil supplies after last Tuesday's Israel attack on Suez. No shortage is visible so far, probably because the Government immediately announced that it had three month's stocks of refined fuel in hand. Foreign observers do not believe this and even think that three weeks might be a high estimate. However, garage keepers have not refused to fill up any car, though they turned away the assorted containers presented to them on the day after the attack.

Though the U.A.R. lost half of its supply of crude during the war in the Sinai wells, further production has brought the present supply up to three-quarters of the original. There is, however, no means of refining it, as tankers are in short supply and, geographically, after the closure of the Canal, only Libya is in a position to bring quick relief.

The Government, however, does not appear to be unduly worried President Nasser told a visitor last week that the refinery damage was not as bad as had been imagined and that Suez would be on full stream again in two months. But the oil experts are well aware that what the Israelis have done once they are quite capable of doing again; that without a political or military settlement Suez remains as vulnerable as ever.

Britain fails to convince

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

TEL AVIV, OCT. 29

Mr. Edward Short, the British Postmaster General, affirmed Britain's interest in Israel when he arrived in Tel Aviv this weekend to represent the Government at this week's celebrations of the fiftieth anniversary of the Balfour declaration on the Jewish claim to a national home in Palestine.

He told reporters that Britain's relations with Israel would not be prejudiced by the approaches to Egypt, and that Britain still hoped for a general Middle East settlement.

There is, however, considerable scepticism in Israel Government circles about the value of British protestations, coinciding with overtures to Cairo. The Israel Government stands firmly by its declared policy of direct negotiations with the Arabs, and there is little hope here that Britain could play any specially constructive part in easing the Arab-Israel conflict.

Nasser still hopes for UN action.
From RAWLE KNOX

The Times (London, England),Monday, Oct 30, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57085.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS84110686

THE COST OF SUEZ

From Mr. Douglas Haydon

Sir,—We are accustomed to hearing in reports of war and revolution from many parts of the world that oil refineries have been set ablaze and we are used to seeing the pictures of each new inferno flashed on to our television screens. May I stress one aspect of what your Correspondent in Suez calls (October 26) " a carefully aimed blow at the Egyptian economy ". It would appear that in thousands of Egyptian homes the primus stoves of the poor will have been put out of action for the time being. Now the primus is for the great majority of the people the sole means of cooking, the only way even a pan of water can be heated. Most of the bakers also depend on kerosene and bread is still the staff of life in a country like Egypt, as it has ceased to be in the West.

All this adds up to fresh privation, but it has a further importance. In the past 20 years it has been Palestinians who have been twice driven from their homes, and it has been the people of Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon who have felt themselves threatened by Israel. Now the question of Israel is being brought into the homes of the Egyptian people with a greater impact than ever in the past. Your Tel Aviv Correspondent says (October 26) " the Israelis appear satisfied that they have made their point ". It may be doubted whether they quite realize what point they have made.

Yours faithfully,

DOUGLAS HAYDON.

Al-Bayt, Foley Road, Claygate, Surrey.

The Cost Of Suez.
DOUGLAS HAYDON. Al-Bayt, Foley Road, Claygate, Surrey

The Times (London, England),Monday, Oct 30, 1967; pg. 9; Issue 57085.

Category: Letters to the Editor

Gale Document Number:CS152268126

Israel plane 'shot down' by Syria

Rising tide of unrest

From NICHOLAS HERBERT—Beirut, Oct. 30

Syria said today it had shot down one of four Israel aircraft which violated Syrian air space this morning. The claim was denied in Tel Aviv.

The Damascus statement, issued by a military spokesman, said an air battle lasting a few minutes had been fought, during which one Israel aircraft was seen to crash over the southern part of the Jebel al-Shaikh.

The alleged incident coincided with a rising tide of newspaper comment in Syria and Egypt, suggesting that the United States was preventing a peaceful settlement of the Middle East crisis.

Damascus radio and press said this morning that President Johnson was determined to bring down progressive Arab regimes, and newspapers in Beirut and Baghdad advocated preparations for war.

In Cairo it was stated that Egypt could go no farther towards a political settlement than the Indian proposal at the United Nations, which calls for an Israel withdrawal behind its June frontiers and an end to belligerency in the area. The Indian resolution would also have the Security Council reaffirm the rights of all states to enjoy political independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

According to the authoritative *Al Ahram*, "The U.A.R. is not prepared to move one step further, whatever the price may be", and will accept no solution providing for less than total Israel withdrawal.

Tiring of words

The impression continues to grow that another round of fighting is the most likely sequel to last week's excesses, and *Al Ahram* suggested that Egypt was tiring of the discussions at the United Nations. It said that Mr. Mahmoud Riad, the Foreign Minister, would be withdrawn from New York if the United States succeeded in blocking all efforts to reach a solution in the Security Council.

President Nasser was presiding over a meeting of the Cabinet today to discuss the situation, and a committee has been formed to handle the international aspects of the crisis. This consists of Mr. Riad, his deputy, Mr. Ahmed Hassan al Fikky, and Dr. Mahmoud Fawzi, the President's special adviser on foreign affairs.

JAKARTA.—Seven people died and 40 others were taken to hospital after eating peanut cake in Purwokerto, central Java, according to press reports.

Britain gets UAR view on crisis

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

CAIRO, OCT. 30

The United Arab Republic has conveyed to Britain her views on proposals being discussed at the United Nations in an attempt to solve the Middle East crisis.

The Egyptian views were contained in a Note to Mr. Brown, the Foreign Secretary, handed yesterday to the head of the British interests section at the Canadian Embassy here by the Egyptian Foreign Ministry.

The Ministry also summoned the Canadian and Danish envoys in Cairo last night and informed them of Egypt's rejection of the Canadian-Danish draft resolution.

Hussein El-Shafei, one of Egypt's Vice-Presidents, left Cairo today on a three-day visit to Saudi Arabia during which he will discuss with King Faisal the latest Middle East developments.

Spain replies to Britain

BY OUR DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The Foreign Office have now received a Note from the Spanish Government replying to the proposal of October 20 that talks should be resumed between Britain and Spain on relations between the two countries, including the problem of Gibraltar.

The Spanish reply is now being studied. It is understood to refer to the subject matter of talks in a way which looks as if the Spanish Government is interested only in discussing a transfer of sovereignty to Spain.

Israel plane 'shot down' by Syria.
From NICHOLAS HERBERT

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Oct 31, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57086.

Category: News

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Gale Document Number:CS84110687

Britain gets UAR view on crisis

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

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Britain gets UAR view on crisis.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Oct 31, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57086.

Category: News

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ISRAEL INSISTENT ON DIRECT TALKS

From MICHAEL WOLFERS—Tel Aviv, Oct. 30

Mr Eshkol, the Israel Prime Minister, reaffirmed Israel's insistence on direct negotiations with the Arabs when he opened the autumn session of the Knesset (Parliament) in Jerusalem today.

He spoke also of Russian arms to Egypt and Syria, and commented that these might encourage Egypt to further steps.

Mr. Eshkol appealed to France to lift her arms embargo, arguing that the strengthening of Israel now might strengthen the possibilities for Middle East peace.

In Tel Aviv, Israel's Chief of State, General Rabin, today presented awards for bravery during the war.

JERUSALEM, Oct. 30.—Mr. Eshkol, referring to what he termed the formulae and declarations of those who wish " to turn the clock back ", said:—

" It is the duty of the Security Council and the General Assembly to refrain from any step which will make it difficult for Israel to conduct negotiations with her neighbours for the achievement of an agreed peace."

Mr. Eshkol told the House that the peoples of the world must remember that on the eve of the war Israel had faced " an aggressive triple alliance " and that a mighty war machine was arraigned against her on three fronts.

Defining Israel's present policy, Mr. Eshkol said: " The situation which reigned in the Middle East before the fifth of June (the day war broke out) shall never be restored."

A series of terrorist incidents last night in Israel's Beiti-Shean valley were reported by the Israel Army today —*Reuter.*

Yemen peace move

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

ADEN, OCT. 30

President Sallal decided today to form a national reconciliation committee to solve the Yemen problem

A South Arabian Army spokesman said tonight that Wahidi state fell to the National Liberation Front (N.L.F.) on Saturday, and the Upper Aulaqi Shaikhdom yesterday. The N.L.F. now seem to be in full control of all South Arabia except Upper Aulaqi Sultanate and Aden state.

Israel Insistent On Direct Talks.
From MICHAEL WOLFERS

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Oct 31, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57086.

Category: News

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The former chief of the Egyptian Air Force and three of his senior commanders on trial before a Cairo military court. Left to right: Air Marshal Muhammad Sidky Mahmoud, Air Marshal Gamal Afify, Air Vice-Marshal Hamid el-Dogeidy, and Air Vice-Marshal Ismail Labib. Right: President Nasser at prayer in a Cairo mosque on the anniversary of the ascent to heaven of the Prophet.

A punishment without end in S Africa

JOHANNESBURGH, Oct. 31.—Five years of the loneliness and isolation of house arrest end at midnight tonight for a grey-haired, 62-year-old woman—and five more start all over again.

For Mrs. Helen Joseph, a sociologist born in Midhurst, Sussex, who came to South Africa in 1930, it means a continuation of an existence so restricted that she cannot leave her home at night or at weekends. She cannot have friends in to visit her, cannot go to church on Sunday, and cannot leave Johannesburg even for a holiday.

"Five years of civil death", Sir de Villiers Graaff, the Opposition leader has called it. And the *Johannesburg Star* declared in an editorial: "Punishment without end is now joining punishment without trial as a feature of life in Nationalist South Africa."

Mrs. Joseph, a divorcee living alone, was the first person to be banned and put under house arrest without trial five years ago because she was alleged to have been furthering the aims of communism. A founder member of the now outlawed South African Congress of Democrats, she had been among the accused in the country's marathon treason trial in the late fifties.

No holiday

Mrs. Joseph had planned an "at home" with friends in her house at midnight tonight to celebrate what she hoped would be the end of her long isolation, but she had to cancel

AIR MARSHALS ON TRIAL IN CAIRO

CAIRO, OCT. 31.—Air Marshal Muhammad Sidky Mahmoud, Egypt's Air Force commander during the Arab-Israel war in June, has been put on trial before a military court here, charged with responsibility for the military setbacks in the fighting.

Three other senior Air Force officers also appeared before the court on the same charges. The proceedings yesterday—disclosed for the first time in today's press—were adjourned until November 11.

The three other men accused were named as Air Marshal Gamal Afify, Air Vice-Marshal Hamid el-Dogeidy, and Air Vice-Marshal Ismail Labib. All had been retired.

Cairo newspapers have recently blamed the Air Force for Egypt's war reversals and accused its commanders of dereliction of duty.

Secret indictment

The court yesterday heard the indictment read out, but it was not published in any of today's newspapers. The authoritative newspaper *Al Ahram* said that the indictment could not be published because it contained military secrets of value to the enemy.

During yesterday's session, the prosecution was granted a request for the trial to be held *in camera* because of the secrets involved. *Al Akhbar* reported.

The court also granted permission to the defence to summon as a witness Air Marshal Madkour Abul Ezz, the present commander of Egypt's Air Force.

Al Ahram said that Afify was former Chief of Staff of the Air Force, el-Dogeidy was former commander of the eastern zone, and Labib was director of air defence.

The court adjourned the trial after the defence requested more time to study the accusations.—*Reuter.*

Minister visits Gulf states

BY OUR DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Mr. Goronwy Roberts, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, left London yesterday for Iran, Kuwait, and other Persian Gulf states which he is visiting until November 13. This is the first visit of a British Minister to the Gulf for over a year.

Mr. Roberts is going primarily to make contact with leading personalities in the area, some of whom may be wondering whether the British withdrawal from Aden—particularly if the date is now advanced—betokens a change in the British policy of continuing to maintain a British military presence in the Gulf.

In the British view, the situations in the Gulf and in South Arabia are not, however, parallel, since the Gulf states have resources—or have access to resources—of their own in their oil; have already in several cases made good use of their oil income for social purposes; and unlike South Arabia are not bordered by territory which can be turned into an anti-western base for terrorist subversion.

Although clearly a British presence in the Gulf cannot be assumed indefinitely, there is no call to withdraw at least in the immediately foreseeable future.

'Prophetess' recaptured in Zambia

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

LUSAKA, OCT. 31

Alice Lenshina, leader of the fanatical Lumpa sect, which is outlawed, has been recaptured after being at large for more than a week, a Zambian Government spokesman announced today. She had escaped from restriction at a camp in the remote Kalabo district.

In a nation-wide search for the self-styled prophetess, troops kept close watch on the frontier near Mokambo in the Congo, where 15,000 Lumpas are encamped in exile.

The Government spokesman did not disclose many details of how the prophetess was recaptured, but it appears she was first held by Zambian villagers near the Angolan frontier. Then she was handed over to Zambian security forces.

She was recaptured with 48 followers, including her husband, two children and several deacons of the Lumpa sect who had set off from their detention camp on foot and wandered for some days through desolate and sparsely populated bush country.

Held in prison

The spokesman said later that although a decision had yet to be taken, it was likely that Mrs. Lenshina would be prosecuted for leaving an area in which she had been

Air Marshals On Trial In Cairo.
The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Nov 01, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57087.

Category: Law

Gale Document Number:CS67857761

JOHNSON ENVOY IN CAIRO

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT—Washington, Nov. 1

President Johnson has sent an unofficial envoy, Mr. Robert Anderson, former Secretary of the Treasury, to Egypt to see if President Nasser will agree to talk with Israel through a United Nations representative for the Middle East.

The State Department said Mr. Anderson was in the United Arab Republic on private business. But diplomatic sources said he was undertaking a delicate and important diplomatic mission for the President.

Mr. Anderson is a confidant of President Johnson. Several times he has served as an unofficial contact with President Nasser on behalf of the Johnson Administration, most recently on the eve of the Arab-Israel war in June.

Diplomatic sources said he had already conferred with Mahmoud Riad, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, and was expected to meet privately with President Nasser in the next 48 hours.

Critical timing

The timing of his mission is critical, diplomatic sources said, because of efforts at the United Nations to get talks under way between Israel and Egypt. These efforts have bogged down because of uncertainty over Cairo's willingness to engage in discussions with the Israelis.

One of the principal reasons for the Anderson mission, sources said, is to give the United States an opportunity to sound out the Egyptians first-hand and a chance to reopen contacts with President Nasser, cut off since the June war. In the past the Egyptian leader has set aside normal diplomatic channels in favour of private citizens, such as Anderson, who are intimate with President Johnson.—*New York Times News Service.*

Other Middle East news—Page 6. How Balfour persuaded the Cabinet—Page 10. Leading article—Page 11.

Chairman of ICI takes new job

Sir Paul Chambers is to leave Imperial Chemical Industries, where he has been chairman for eight years, to join the board of Royal Insurance. Sir Peter Allen, aged 62, one year younger than Sir Paul, will become chairman of I.C.I.

Last night neither Sir Paul nor Sir Peter was available for comment but it has now become clear why Lord Beeching, a deputy chairman of I.C.I., recently became available to Associated Electrical Industries.

One of the reasons for Sir Paul's resignation is his obvious dislike of the Government's interventionist policies, particularly at a time of a quickly changing economy.

Business News, page 21.

'Relief' cities for London

By HENRY STANHOPE

New city regions for the south-east spaced 60 and 70 miles from London are proposed today in the first report of the South East Economic Planning Council.

The regions would be linked to the capital by "growth sectors"—broad corridors of development sprouting out from London and based on the main road and

Johnson Envoy In Cairo.
FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Nov 02, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 57088.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS17657186

Egypt ready to deliver 'riposte'

FROM RAWLE KNOX

CAIRO, NOV. 1

If deadlock on the Middle East crisis is reached at the United Nations, Egypt's attitude would be one of resistance "if not of riposte", it was officially said today.

It seemed more startling to hear this from the mouth of the friendly balanced Hasan el Zayat, chairman of the information services, than in the course of one of President Nasser's bloodcurdlers. "We are not going to have our lands occupied forever", said Zayat

He regarded it as "terrifying" that Mr. Arthur Goldberg, the United States representative at the United Nations, should allegedly have said that the United Nations no longer has a role in the Middle East crisis.

No negotiations

Zayat said that the United Arab Republic still had no thought of direct negotiations with Israel. If there were a deadlock at the United Nations Mahmoud Riad, the Foreign Minister, would be recalled immediately. If he returned with even a ray of hope it would be welcome. Otherwise the U.A.R. "would know what to do".

Foreign Ministry sources expect Riad to return within the next two days.

CAIRO, Nov. 1.—The spokesman said that the U.A.R. would now find no difficulty in resuming diplomatic relations with Britain. It was happy to see that, with good intentions, the South Arabian problem would disappear.—*Reuter.*

Egypt ready to deliver 'riposte'.
FROM RAWLE KNOX

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Nov 02, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57088.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS101018978

U S envoy in talks with Nasser

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

WASHINGTON, NOV. 2

President Johnson's special envoy to the United Arab Republic has sounded out President Nasser on possible avenues towards a political settlement in the Middle East, reliable sources said today.

The sources said Mr. Robert B. Anderson, former Secretary of the Treasury, met President Nasser for about 90 minutes last night at his home in Heliopolis, a suburb of Cairo.

Mr. Anderson, who is occasionally sent by the President on unofficial, diplomatic missions, left the Egyptian capital today for Europe. He is expected to report personally to Mr. Johnson on his return to Washington next week.

He was reportedly following up reports from Cairo that President Nasser had told British intermediaries that Cairo was prepared to discuss a settlement on the basis of the 1949 United Nations truce agreement. Under its terms, Arabs would sit at a conference table with the Israelis and with a U.N. representative between them.

Stumbling block

The basic stumbling block now to the appointment of a U.N. representative, diplomatic sources said, was disagreement between Israel and Egypt over his terms of reference.

The Egyptians are reportedly insisting that any Security Council resolution authorizing a special United Nations representative for the Middle East should assert the requirement that Israel withdraw from Arab territories captured during the June war.

Mr. Abba Eban, the Israel Foreign Minister, was reported to have informed U Thant, the Secretary General, last Monday that the Israel Government would refuse contact with a Council representative if the authorizing resolution contained such a demand.—*New York Times Service.*

U S envoy in talks with Nasser.
FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Friday, Nov 03, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57089.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS84897123

PARLIAMENT

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1967

The Lords: 'kite-flying' in Europe a damaging manoeuvre

The LORD CHANCELLOR took his seat on the Woolsack at 3 p.m.

Debate was resumed on the motion for an Address in reply to the Queen's Speech.

LORD CARRINGTON (C.), initiating a debate on foreign affairs, and referring to Britain's application to join the E.E.C. Headlines had appeared in the Sunday newspapers, but it was unrealistic to suppose that Britain could or would do any of the things suggested — withdraw from Nato or recognize east Germany in a fit of pique. It was inconceivable that foreign policy could be conducted in such a way.

He was loath to blame Lord Chalfont whose name had been associated with these rumours—the House knew what an able and conscientious Minister he was — but this could not just be a question of misunderstanding. Headlines of that kind could not come about unless there was some substance of truth behind the story.

Ministers in this Government were very inclined to fly kites. There were a good many premeditated leaks to the press, especially to one or two specially favoured correspondents. These were dangerous manoeuvres, and it looked on this occasion as if it had been a manoeuvre which had been conspicuously damaging and unsuccessful.

Agreeable experience for President Nasser

He had grave misgivings about the activities of the Foreign Secretary with Egypt and President Nasser.

President Nasser (he said) has suffered an overwhelming military and political defeat at the hands of the Israelis and he has been discredited and humiliated in the eyes of his Arab neighbours. How agreeable for him to be wooed by the British, how even more agreeable that the British should seem to be restoring him to the position of importance he once held.

The crowning success of this achievement would be for Britain to offer President Nasser a loan to put him on his feet again. He hoped the Government would deny that there was any truth in the rumour that such a loan was contemplated.

LORD GLADWYN (L.) said that one alternative, if Britain could not join Europe, was to be neutralist. This was sometimes known as the super-Sweden solution and would involve withdrawal from Nato.

Such a solution would be lamentable and might lead to Britain becoming associated with the Soviet Union.

The less improbable alternative was to become increasingly associated with north America and Australia, perhaps in some kind of free trade area. Some people thought this solution desirable but the greatest disadvantage of this was that political control would be at the centre, and that meant Washington.

What had to be done, as the Government were doing, was to make every conceivable effort to get negotiations started. In the event of a French veto, the Government should try to negotiate with the Five.

LORD SHACKLETON, Minister without Portfolio, said there was an uneasy truce in the Arab-Israel hostilities and a constructive resolution in the Security Council would be a major step forward. While recognizing the principle of Israeli withdrawal, the resolution would have to acknowledge that the withdrawal had to be linked to the Arab states recognizing the right of Israel to exist in peace and security.

U Thant should appoint a personal representative to go to the Middle East if such a resolution were passed.

The reopening of negotiations with Egypt could be nothing but helpful, but he could not answer the question about a possible loan. Apart from what he had seen in the press, he had heard nothing and he would be surprised if there were anything in the offing.

The EARL of BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, in a maiden speech, said the economies of Britain and Europe were primarily competitive but those of the Commonwealth countries and Britain were basically complementary. Britain was abdicating from the position of head of the Commonwealth to become a seventh or eighth state in Europe. Long live Britain and the Commonwealth.

LADY EMMET of AMBERLEY (C.) said that not for a long time had Britain's foreign policy appeared to be in such complete ruin. The bonhomie of the Foreign Secretary was hardly a sufficient substitute for strength.

It seemed strange that General de Gaulle, who had experienced so much strife, did not realize that a Europe split in half must remain impotent and ignored by the big powers.

Labour peer wants end to sanctions

LORD SILKIN (Lab.) said there should be flexibility on both sides in discussions on Rhodesia. It was no good going along with five points, say, and saying "Here you are, I have two days to spare—you have to accept these five points or there is no settlement". Nor was it any good the Prime Minister saying that he had little hope of a settlement.

Above all, there should be an end to sanctions. They were futile, and were not going to bring about the solution they had in mind.

LORD ROWLEY (Lab.), referring to the holding of two British pilots in Algeria for three months without being brought to trial, said it was time the statutes of the International Court of Justice were examined to see if there could be an international right of *habeas corpus*. This would mean that when a national was held without trial by the Government of another country he would have the right to go to the International Court.

The EARL of DUNDEE (C.) offered Lord Chalfont his sympathy for the "little difficulty" he had run into, and hoped that normal diplomatic relations might soon be restored between himself and the *Daily Mirror*.

I would hope similarly (he said) that normal diplomatic relations may soon be restored between the Foreign Secretary and *The Sunday Times*.

General de Gaulle was not a man of the common sort. He was a man of great ideas, some of which were very fine. But he had a psychopathic obsession about the danger of American predominance in the civilized world. This obsession affected his judgment.

They must always bear this obsession in mind when they pursued their negotiations with Europe. The only hope of leaving General de Gaulle alone with so little support that he would have to agree, was to keep repeating their case again and again, without being distracted and getting into irrelevancies.

The Lords: 'kite-flying' in Europe a damaging manoeuvre.
The Times (London, England),Friday, Nov 03, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57089.

Category: Politics and Parliament

Gale Document Number:CS101018979

The Commons: Sir A Douglas-Home—road into EEC not easy

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 2.30 p.m.

The debate on the motion for an Address in reply to the Queen's Speech was resumed.

SIR ALEC DOUGLAS-HOME (Kinross and West Perthshire, C.), initiating a debate on foreign affairs, said, in the spring, the *Prime Minister* and Foreign Secretary toured Europe selling Britain's case for entry into the European Economic Community.

They went very cocky and buoyant (he said), unlike the country bumpkins who negotiated in 1962. The ramparts of Europe were going to be stormed by a nice judicious mixture of intellect and charm—cold intellect and warm, sometimes overwarm, charm.

I doubt if they are wiser men, but at any rate they are sadder men. The Foreign Secretary, although he may use brave words, cannot doubt that there has been a pretty serious setback to the British intention of entering the European Economic Community, and that the road into Europe is by no means a smooth journey.

We support the Government's *purpose and policy* to enter the E.E.C. The Foreign Secretary may rely on that.

Egregious folly and stark danger

The Government were now right to await the outcome of the discussions in Brussels. He hoped they would reach the negotiating table, but if they did not, he hoped the Foreign Secretary would have in mind some fresh initiatives to ensure there were detailed discussions of these outstanding issues on which there must be some understanding before Britain could become a member of the community.

Certainly, bluster was useless. When the stories began to circulate that the Minister allocated to the job of conducting negotiations in Brussels had adopted a posture of threat, and a hint of reprisal, the folly of it was so egregious and the danger for Britain and Europe so stark that, asked for his reaction, he immediately said it was totally incredible. He could not see that any other conclusion was possible.

The Prime Minister a day or two ago denied the implications drawn from Lord Chalfont's press interview. It was necessary to press the Foreign Secretary a little further on this.

That interview was apparently spread over a good many hours. It was interrupted and the journalists brought back to have it made clear to them what Lord Chalfont's views were.

Three German journalists had since confirmed that Lord Chalfont used almost identical language to them.

Thinking awful thoughts aloud

The Prime Minister had said the press conference was both unattributable and off the record. Mr. Wilson knew enough about these matters to realize that it must be one or the other.

If it had been off the record, nothing would have been printed. If it was non-attributable, that meant that the name of the Minister concerned must not be used but views could be broadcast. This the journalists interpreted as being an unattributable meeting.

The danger (he said) is not that socialist Ministers think aloud. It is that when they do the thoughts they reveal are so awful. (Opposition laughter.)

Lord Chalfont has offered, we understand, to resign and the Prime Minister could not accept it. Of course not. It would have been very odd if the pupil had been sacked by the master of the *double entendre*. (Prolonged Opposition laughter.)

What sort of a Government is it, one might ask, when the Prime Minister has to call on three officials to see if the report given by his Minister is accurate? (Opposition cheers.)

My conclusion on this sad episode is that this Government is a poor thing: misrepresented, mis-reported, mis-photographed (laughter) and miscast—a total liability to us at home and overseas as well. (Loud Opposition cheers.)

Protection of Britons left in Aden

There was another area, in which Britain alone had the opportunity to support and sustain order and stability, where failure had been abject—Aden and South Arabia.

If it was the conclusion of the High Commissioner and the military advisers that this was the only course consistent with safety for the lives of British servicemen and civilians, the Opposition must support him in his timetable.

Nevertheless, some pertinent questions had to be asked. Who were the British subjects who were going to be *left behind*? Were they going to be employees of the British Petroleum Company, and, if so, what arrangements were to be made for their protection when all British troops were out?

What terms of compensation were going to be arranged for British property taken over by the Government of South Arabia? What was going to be the cost of compensation to the British Government to British subjects whose career in Aden was at an end?

On the larger political issue (he said) I cannot disguise the disgust we feel at the Government's mishandling of South Arabia's future. (Ministerial laughter and shouts of "Turn round.") They have achieved what Mr. Duncan Sandys forecast—total political confusion in that area.

The Government apparently contemplate with equanimity handing over the government of South Arabia to Flosy and the N.L.F.—Flosy an Egyptian organization recruited not for government but for terrorism.

The future of South Arabia seemed now to rest on the outcome of the Yemen war. Either it would be dominated by an Egyptian-based Yemen republic, or by the royalists if the latter and their sympathizers won the day.

That was the fate of a once-thriving British colony, and it was at this point that the Foreign Secretary proposed to renew diplomatic relations with Egypt.

Diplomatic recognition did not mean approval of another country's political policies. But in this case there were special circumstances which the Foreign Secretary must consider.

British subjects were being illegally restrained; property compensation was due and had been withheld illegally; the canal was closed to British shipping, also illegally. In particular, Mr. Brown should pay attention to the campaign of Cairo Radio during and following the talks of Sir Harold Beeley.

Nasser's aim in new relations

Seldom did one hear such political vitriol poured out of any government political instrument, and this while Sir Harold Beeley and President Nasser worded a communiqué that they were "embraced in an atmosphere of friendship and understanding". (Laughter.)

President Nasser's renewed interest *in relations with Britain were twofold* —first to achieve many of his objectives, including that in Aden; and, second, he wanted the Foreign Secretary, not without cause, to tip the balance in Egypt's favour during a settlement of the Israel-Egypt war.

I beg the Foreign Secretary (he said) not to humiliate this country when resuming diplomatic relations because the country is in no mood for any more of that.

Cutting through the emotion of the Arab-Jew situation, two facts were clear—that Israel, as a state, existed, and that it was useless to invite her to concede territory taken in war without compensating guarantees of security which were more absolute than anything yet devised.

The present deadlock was that the Arabs would not come to the table. The future anxiety was that United Nations forces, which left at the drop of a hat only a few weeks ago, would not be acceptable as a guarantor.

If demilitarized zones consistent with the security of neighbouring states could be defined—and it was a *big "if"*—and United Nations forces could be deployed in them, might it not be possible for the great powers to guarantee that force, and say that that force would be kept by them inviolable?

BRITAIN'S REPUTAT

SIR ALEC DOUGLAS-HOME, opening a debate on foreign affairs, said.—*The House may have noticed* in this morning's newspapers that I have been cast for a number of roles, few of which make much appeal to me.

The right hon. gentleman (Mr George Brown) has held the office of Foreign Secretary for some time, and so have I (he said) and it would be an impertinence of me even to remind him that to a very *particular* and peculiar degree the Foreign Secretary holds the reputation of his *country in trust. He will accept that* as being so.

I want to make it quite clear that if we think the conduct of foreign

Signs of exhaustion in North Vietnam

On Vietnam he recalled that two years ago he had stated his belief that no third party could do much to end the war and that it would only end either if North Vietnam became tired under the strain or if the Soviet Union took steps to stop it.

Until now, whatever the impression left by Mr. Kosygin on the Prime Minister, the Russians had not been interested in ending this war. The involvement of the United States in Asia and the unpopularity incurred by the United States in this war were too useful a stick with which to beat the west.

But the military evidence now (he said) is that North Vietnam is beginning to tire. The *recruits coming* into South Vietnam from North Vietnam are in the 15 to 16 age group—a really terrible thought. The rate of desertion has lately doubled.

This is going to be a slow business but nevertheless these are, I believe, the signals of exhaustion.

It may be that before long, although the American elections are, as usual, an inconvenience, *there will* be an increased willingness in North Vietnam to talk directly with South Vietnam, *or* for North Vietnam in conjunction with her Russian allies to talk with South Vietnam and the Americans. Pending that day, Britain cannot do much to hasten it.

Combined framework for SE Asia

The Secretary-General of the United Nations could, with great advantage, put out a plan using all the organs of publicity at his command for the future of all South-East Asia —Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia—based on non-alignment and on a cooperative economic programme assisted from outside.

To begin with it would have to be internationally policed, but its appeal would be that it would hold out the prospect, not there now, of an honourable alternative *to the policy* of vendetta and revenge which was the only one which ruled the circumstances today.

It would be an honourable political alternative, and it would hold out some economic alternative to the poverty to which all these countries looked forward unless the war could be brought to an end. Such an act now might well assist the move from war to peace.

The Commons: Sir A Douglas-Home-road into EEC not easy.
The Times (London, England),Friday, Nov 03, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57089.

Category: Politics and Parliament

Gale Document Number:CS101281123

THE END AT ADEN

The accelerated departure of British troops from Aden, announced to the Commons yesterday by MR. BROWN, is to be welcomed. The reported agreement between the Nationalist Parties meeting in Cairo makes it possible that Britain will be able to hand over independence almost immediately to some form of government in South Arabia other than the Army, but even if that turns out not to be so, there would be no justification for maintaining a military presence in South Arabia, and for putting up with the murder of soldiers and civilians, simply to observe those constitutional proprieties which had been prearranged for January 9. The changed political conditions in the area will also mean that the naval and air support promised to the Sultans' Government last June will neither be requested nor needed. As MR. BROWN said, the South Arabians must face their own problems and resolve them themselves, and in the changed circumstances the South Arabian forces are anyway now ready to take over on their own without expecting the support of British units.

But the new situation in South Arabia should also provoke a review of the financial support which Britain offered last June for the first three years of independence. The offer amounted to a total of nearly £60m. which for the most part would have been taken up with paying for South Arabia's greatly expanded Army. The size of that Army was planned originally against a background of external threats from Yemen and externally induced subversion within South Arabia. MR. BROWN told the Commons that it was understood that this offer would be subject to review if political circumstances changed.

Although the British Government is obviously banking on the South Arabian Army proving to be the main stabilizing force in the new country, it would be wise for Whitehall to ponder on the dangers inherent in committing South Arabia to an unbalanced and very high level of defence expenditure, certainly when compared to the rest of South Arabia's puny budget. So long as the Suez Canal remains closed, the South Arabian economy, which relies so much on the port, will remain almost destitute. Thus the country deserves all the aid it can get. But there seems little point in immediately throwing away this aid on defence spending, particularly if the new political conditions in South Arabia and the encouraging evidence of Egypt's genuine withdrawal from Yemen both suggest a greatly reduced threat from the north.

The End At Aden.
The Times (London, England),Friday, Nov 03, 1967; pg. 11; Issue 57089.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS184905059

MIDDLE EAST AND BRITAIN

From Sir Edward Hulton

Sir,—As one who has just returned from Iran, perhaps I might make one or two points on your recent articles on the Middle East.

First, the Iranians appear to be at a total loss to comprehend why Her Majesty's Government are engaged in "kow-towing" to President Nasser, who is regarded in Iran as a *would-be* militarist and a general nuisance in the area.

Secondly, the Iranians much regret British withdrawal from Aden and Southern Arabia. They are hoping that Britain will not weaken her forces, or finally withdraw altogether from the Persian Gulf.

Such a withdrawal would inevitably activate an exceedingly complex and bitter series of disputes concerning ownership of territories and rights, leading, no doubt, to military intervention by Egypt and/or the U.S.S.R., a highly unwelcome eventuality for Iran, Turkey and Pakistan.

Incidentally, the removal of British strength in this part of the world would necessitate a staggeringly costly increase in the strength of the Iranian armed forces. This would go far to destroy prospects for the success of the Shah's social reforms.

For one who has seen the smiling faces of Iranians, who have now risen to the status of one lamb *kebab* every week, through the recent efforts of the Government, in land distribution and rural education, this is a heartbreaking prospect.

Yours, &c.,

EDWARD HULTON, Chairman,
Hulton Publications Ltd.
Gotch House, St. Bride's, Fleet Street,
E.C.4, Oct. 28.

Middle East And Britain.
EDWARD HULTON

The Times (London, England),Friday, Nov 03, 1967; pg. 11; Issue 57089.

Category: Letters to the Editor

Gale Document Number:CS185691491

Arab world champions Mr George Brown

FROM OUR MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT—Beirut, Nov. 3

Mr. George Brown may be without honour in his own country, but his many fans in the Arab world are undismayed. If he had, in Arab eyes, a run of low scores in the early summer, he has recovered his form wonderfully and stands high in the Foreign Ministerial averages.

Mr. Andrei Gromyko, no doubt, heads both the batting and bowling by virtue of ruthless efficiency, but he rarely produces an inspired stroke and never bowls a "chinaman".

M. Couve de Murville's bat is straight, but his captain rarely gives him an innings. Mr. Dean Rusk has not scored a run nor hit the stumps since May. Mr. Brown on the other hand has played several colourful innings, none more so than the one at the United Nations, which endeared him to Arab spectators.

He then underlined some basic tenets which did much to restore faith in British fair play, and the Beirut *Daily Star* therefore spoke for many today when it came to Mr. Brown's defence.

The paper said: "He is emotional and bad-tempered but he is also a likable man. He has not blundered at the Foreign Office, as many others have. He is liked and appreciated in this part of the world, and many would be sorry to see him removed from the Foreign Office."

Efforts applauded

These comments have special relevance here in view of yesterday's anniversary of the Balfour Declaration, a day on which Mr. Brown gave the welcome news that Britain was to speed the end of its second or third most disastrous adventure in the Middle East. Suez must perhaps take precedence over Aden but Mr. Brown opposed the former and few Arabs are so naive as to blame him for what happened in South Arabia.

If many regret that he did not grasp the nettle even sooner, most are appreciative that he has done so now. They hope, without much conviction, that he can avoid a repetition in the Gulf, but they applaud, in the meanwhile, his persistent efforts to improve relations with Egypt. British policy, indeed, has not looked so sensible in these parts for many years.

Arab world champions Mr George Brown.
FROM OUR MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Nov 04, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57090.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS85421412

Egypt seeks Shell-BP refinery use

Shell-BP stated last night that it had received a request from the Egyptian Government to use the company's Port Sudan refinery for processing some of its crude oil supplies.

No decision has yet been made by the company but it is likely that a move will be made today on a similar request for the use of the BP refinery at Aden.

Cairo sources said yesterday that there had been agreement on a plan for BP to handle the oil at the Aden refinery although these reports could not be confirmed in London. Should the companies agree to the Egyptian requests it would help her significantly to overcome the setback caused by the almost complete destruction by Israel of the two refineries at Suez.

Egypt seeks Shell-BP refinery use.
The Times (London, England),Saturday, Nov 04, 1967; pg. 11; Issue 57090.

Category: Business and Finance

Gale Document Number:CS186477924

Britain's role in Israel peace

Britain was right to declare neutrality in the recent Middle East war. But neutrality did not mean selfish indifference, Mr. Richard Crossman told the Zionist Federation at a jubilee celebration of the Balfour Declaration in London last night.

" In the making of peace which lies ahead ", Mr. Crossman said, " we must assert to Israel our duty to improve relations with Egypt and we must also make sure that President Nasser realizes we are good friends of Israel."

Mr. Abba Eban, Israel's Foreign Minister, who was guest of honour, said the Middle East must stop regarding itself as a kind of international protectorate. It was an area of sovereign peoples who must confront each other directly in order to negotiate a secure peace.

Britain's role in Israel peace.
The Times (London, England),Monday, Nov 06, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57091.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS84503910

SALLAL DROPPED BY CAIRO

FROM OUR DIPLOMATIC STAFF

It looks as though the Yemenis have done a Nkrumah on Sallal, by getting rid of an unpopular ruler while he is visiting abroad. It is true that since he emerged as the first republican President of Yemen after the 1962 revolution Sallal has often been for long periods out of favour and out of the country, and has always come back.

This, however, was because in the past he could always count on Egypt's backing, and Egyptian troops were the bosses in Yemen. Now the troops are on the way out: by the terms of the Khartum Arab summit they should all be gone by the end of the month, and apparently Cairo is making no effort to stand up for Sallal.

Sallal was unpopular among the Yemenis because he was regarded as Egypt's stooge, and wielded power harshly; his opponents were executed or thrown into prison. The new dawn of social reforms which he promised—and no doubt believed in—never happened.

Sallal is the first Arab ruler to disappear since the June war. Although he was a Nasser man this is not necessarily a defeat for President Nasser, though it could be taken by the Saudis as a sign that Egyptian pressure was coming off them.

What the elimination of Sallal does show is that as Egypt and Britain take themselves out of southern Arabia many new forces and new people are moving in to fill the vacuum.

DAMASCUS, Nov. 5.—Marshal Sallal, deposed President of Yemen, today postponed indefinitely an official visit to Moscow due to begin tomorrow, a Middle East news agency dispatch from Baghdad reported. *Associated Press.*

NLF order halt to Cairo talks

ADEN, Nov. 5.—The general command of the National Liberation Front (N.L.F.) tonight cabled its representatives in Cairo, ordering them to halt immediately all unity talks with the Front for the Liberation of Occupied South Yemen (Flosy).

The cable read:—

"We have all decided that you stop talks. Do not reach any agreements with the other side. They have renewed fighting for the third time, which indicates that they are not adhering to any decision or agreement."—*Associated Press.*

Sallal Dropped By Cairo.
FROM OUR DIPLOMATIC STAFF

The Times (London, England),Monday, Nov 06, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57091.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS84766054

TIMES PAST
THE TIMES
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BLOOD BATH IN ADEN

It is an appalling comment on the passions loose in Aden that yesterday fighting broke out again after a demonstration of women and children in the streets against the killing had shamed the rival gunmen into silence for a few hours. It may be too much to hope that this flare-up is the last, and that both sides are exhausted if not sated. But whatever happens it is plain that the British authorities, the rival nationalist leaders who have been trying to reach agreement in Cairo for a joint takeover from the British, the Federal Army, and the general population will have to live on a day-to-day basis. The danger that Aden will be abandoned in anarchy is real and close. Not since the retreat from Palestine in 1948 has a British territory been decolonized in such disastrous circumstances.

The political differences between the National Liberation Front and Flosy (Front for the Liberation of Occupied South Yemen) are by now almost invisible. At an earlier stage it was possible to make the distinction that Flosy (an amalgamation of other nationalist parties) was inspired by Egypt, to which its leaders, including ABDUL QAWEE MACKAWEE and ABDULLAH AL-ASNAG, had withdrawn despite British pleas for cooperation, while the N.L.F. was an indigenous reaction against a foreign-directed force. It was led by men like QAHTAN AL-SHAABI, who opposed PRESIDENT NASSER as much as Britain. (The N.L.F. was banned, when Flosy remained a legal party.) The Arab-Israel war and the blighting of PRESIDENT NASSER'S hopes have blurred the differences between the parties. Israel's victory and the closing of the Suez Canal have eroded Aden's strategic interest for Egypt.

Flosy has had more support in Aden than the N.L.F., though it always claimed to lead the people of the hinterland too. The only fact to go on is that the two groups are fighting for control of Aden with the decisive right to inherit authority from the British that it confers. It is a fight for the succession, whatever tribal ties may influence the sides men choose. The N.L.F. wants Aden as the keystone to its growing ascendancy in the shaikhdoms, including the Hadramaut, while Flosy's supporters want Aden to prevent their elimination after the British have gone. Whitehall calculations that the imminence of Britain's departure would bring the rivals together, as happened elsewhere, have gone awry. Elsewhere party or tribal rivalry for power did not become a blood feud, as it has in Aden.

The strain has threatened the cohesion of the Federal Army and police. Now however that the army has apparently taken sides with the N.L.F. it may emerge on top but, unless the fighting stops soon, the N.L.F. will come out on top of a ruined administration and economy.

Is a last-minute rescue possible ? The leaders of Flosy and the N.L.F. might note that after five years of inconclusive internecine war in Yemen a regime pledged to reconciliation has had to emerge. As the United Nations has stultified itself, Britain and Egypt might jointly exert such influence as they have before the sands run out. Egypt has an interest in a peaceful transition, if only because it needs the Aden refinery for its crude oil output, and if any organized institutions are to survive in southern Arabia they will have to rely largely on British aid.

The outlook for the people of South Arabia is appalling. Nobody can help them until they help themselves. For Britain, the wreck of Aden may give an unexpected breathing space in the Persian Gulf which had better be used to reorganize our responsibilities so that the present pattern in Aden is not later repeated there.

Blood Bath In Aden.
The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Nov 07, 1967; pg. 11; Issue 57092.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS184773991

Cairo hint of peace plan assent

By ERIC PACE

CAIRO, NOV. 7

The United Arab Republic has decided to accept President Johnson's five-point formula for a Middle East settlement, if Israel troops are withdrawn from Arab territory and Arab Palestinian refugees are repatriated or paid compensation, diplomatic sources said today.

The sources said Cairo had recently informed Washington of this. President Johnson's five points, announced on June 19, are: The right of Middle East nations to exist; justice for refugees; freedom of peaceful maritime passage; limits on the Middle East arms race; and political independence and territorial integrity of all Middle East nations.—*New York Times News Service.*

Our Washington Correspondent writes: The reports from Cairo came as something of a surprise to State Department officials, who indicated that the formula had been raised casually by the President's envoy, Mr. Robert Anderson, in talks with President Nasser last week. It had then been discussed informally as a basis for settlement.

However, the word is that Mr. Rusk has still to receive any concrete proposal from Egypt.

Egyptian plea to Security Council, page 6.

Cairo hint of peace plan assent.
ERIC PACE

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Nov 08, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 57093.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS17657192

UAR plea to Security Council

FROM OUR UNITED NATIONS CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK, NOV. 7

Prolonged efforts behind the scenes having failed to produce a concerted approach to the Middle East crisis, Egypt today showed its frustration by calling for an urgent meeting of the United Nations Security Council " to consider the dangerous situation " in that region.

The request, submitted by Mr. Mohamed El-Kony, the representative of the United Arab Republic, to Mr. Mamadou Kante of Mali, the council's president for the current month, asserted that the danger arose from " the persistence of Israel not to withdraw from all the territories which it occupied as a result of the Israel aggression on June 5, 1967 ".

This move is apparently a sequel to yesterday's attempt by Mr. Arthur Goldberg, representative of the United States, to enlist general support for a simple formula seeking to link the withdrawal of Israel forces with the ending of the state of war by the Arab states, and authorizing the dispatch to the scene of a special representative of the Secretary General.

Late last night it became known that the Soviet Union, presumably speaking on behalf of its Arab friends, had expressed its opposition to the American draft.

Paraffin rationed in Egypt

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

CAIRO, NOV. 7

Rationing of paraffin began in Egypt today as a result of last month's Israel shelling of two refineries in Suez. Each person will be entitled to just under half a gallon a month.

UAR plea to Security Council.
FROM OUR UNITED NATIONS CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Nov 08, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57093.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS101018984

Israel uneasy on UN proposals

Afro-Asian plan rejected

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Tel-Aviv, Nov. 8

The Israel Cabinet held extraordinary meetings in Jerusalem last night and today, in connexion with developments in the United Nations. The Security Council is to meet tomorrow to discuss rival proposals concerning the Arab-Israel conflict.

Details of the Cabinet discussions were not revealed but there was a noticeable uneasiness in official circles.

The proposal by India, Mali and Nigeria calling for an unconditional withdrawal of Israel forces from territory occupied during the six-day war was considered a disguised Arab-Soviet proposal and rejected outright. The Israelis also had reservations about the rival proposal by the United States, which has been supporting the Israel position strongly since the June fighting.

Israel's attitude towards the proposed dispatch of a United Nations peace envoy to the Middle East has been to accept one as a mediator to bring the Arabs and Israel together, but in no circumstances to accept a United Nations referee.

Some observers here discerned a favourable trend in the resolution submitted by the Afro-Asians, in that it indicated a readiness on the part of the Arabs to accept conditions such as an end to belligerency and recognition of Israel's existence which they had previously declined to accept.

The American draft is reported to link the call for a withdrawal with the achievement of a lasting peace, the termination of belligerence, freedom of navigation, and frontier guarantees. The only reason given in public here for Israel reservations was the omission of a call for direct Israel-Arab peace talks, but there appear to be other undisclosed reasons for Israel concern.

Informed sources here said that the United States formula had been worked out in consultation with King Husain of Jordan, who has said in Washington that the Arabs were shifting to a moderate position.

Observers here interpreted Egypt's sudden call last night for a Security Council meeting as a move to refute King Husain's claim to be speaking for all the Arabs, and as Soviet-Egyptian action to prevent a United States-Jordan rapprochement.

Cairo 'doubletalk'

A newspaper report that Cairo had expressed willingness to accept President Johnson's peace formula on condition that Israel first withdrew from occupied territories was, however, described here as "doubletalk".

An official today commented that a prior withdrawal would nullify the whole plan. "If we retreat", he declared, "we can't return, and the Arabs will be able to say 'Oh, the five points, yes, but we understood them differently'."

Israel uneasy on U N proposals.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Nov 09, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57094.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS100887913

Fuel tank for Comet inquiry

BY A STAFF REPORTER

Board of Trade accident investigators are arranging for a military jettisoning fuel tank, which was recovered 10 to 15 miles east of Rhodes to be brought to Britain for further examination by experts in connexion with the inquiry into the British European Airways Comet airliner disaster.

The discovery of the tank, which was reported in *The Times* yesterday, has strengthened the theory that the Comet may have been involved in a collision with another aircraft, possibly a Russian MiG being ferried from Russia to Egypt.

The Comet crashed into the Mediterranean off Turkey last month with the loss of all 66 on board.

Fuel tank for Comet inquiry.
BY A STAFF REPORTER

The Times (London, England),Friday, Nov 10, 1967; pg. 2; Issue 57095.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS35220842

Egypt's plea to Security Council

FROM OUR UNITED NATIONS CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK, NOV. 9

Egypt told the Security Council tonight that it "has the authority and indeed the duty to suppress the Israel aggression and to force the aggressive Israel forces to return to the positions held before June 5".

Mr. Mahmoud Riad, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, presented his country's complaint to the Council after a two and a half hours' procedural wrangle about which country should follow him and speak second in the debate. A United States motion to give Israel the opportunity to rebut his arguments forthwith was defeated for lack of the necessary nine affirmative votes. Israel will be able to speak seventh.

Mr. Riad said Israel's aggression had presented the Arab countries with a setback. But the history of nations was made up of victories and setbacks. "We have not the slightest doubt that we shall overcome the present aggression as well."

Alamein film in difficulties

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

TEL AVIV, NOV. 9

Mr. Harry Saltzman, the British film producer who plans to shoot scenes of the battle of El Alamein in the Israel desert, has been having difficulty in getting extras here to play German soldiers.

The Israel Army agreed to cooperate in the production, but fought shy of dressing up its soldiers in German uniforms.

The producers then asked the students' association of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem to provide 500 extras. Mr. Rafi Haft, the association's president, said today that it was an awkward situation. His committee would certainly not recruit students for the parts, and at the most would not interfere with those who heard of the venture and offered their services.

Egypt's plea to Security Council.
FROM OUR UNITED NATIONS CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Friday, Nov 10, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57095.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68382058

Army groups settle in conquered territories

Israelis plan to stay on

From MICHAEL WOLFERS

TEL AVIV, NOV. 9

The greater Israel, of which Mr. Levi Eshkol, the Prime Minister, speaks, is fast becoming a reality in spite of hedging by diplomatists and politicians in public statements. I have just travelled hundreds of miles to follow the tentacles of Israel power that now reach into former Syrian, Jordan, and Egyptian territories, visiting three settlements, whose existence has been publicly explained, and finding a fourth one whose establishment is being achieved without fanfares or justification.

However the international debate rages, all the evidence on the ground is that the Israel authorities expect to hold almost all they have.

The statement, "Other places we can give back but this place never", which I first heard in Jerusalem in June, is now being heard from Israelis standing on what less than six months ago the world regarded as Syrian and Jordan soil.

When it was still possible to see stones in the Old City marked with the blood of Israel parachute troops killed in the capture of Jerusalem, the divided city seemed a special case. Now the special cases are being multiplied: on a kibbutz in Jordan one of the settlement leaders said: "This is the first kibbutz here, we hope not the only one."

Since the six-day war Israel has set up settlements on the Mediterranean coast of the Sinai desert, on the west bank of the Jordan, at the source of the river Jordan close to the old Syrian frontier, and on the Golan heights.

Pioneering fighting youth

Two settlements are manned chiefly by Nahal—pioneering fighting youth—Army groups that maintain villages at points too dangerous for civilians; one settlement is manned by a religious group; and the fourth, Kefar Etzion, still cloaked in secrecy, on the west bank of the Jordan, is set up by a religious youth group. But of the people who came to Kefar Etzion six weeks ago, 30 had been born there. They were some of the 60 children rescued from a settlement held there by Jews, before partition, on land bought from the Arabs by the Jewish National Fund.

On May 14, 1948, the day Israel was proclaimed as a state and on the eve of British withdrawal from Palestine, the settlement was overrun by Arabs and 150 Jews were killed.

Of the buildings put up by the earlier Jewish settlers, only one still stands.

A low wall marks where the settlement synagogue once stood. A Jordan camp had been set up on the site and when the kitchens are completed the new settlers will be eating in the rooms where Arab Legion officers dined.

The settlers are soon to be joined by a Nahal group, as the kibbutz lies close to Hebron where this week Israel forces killed seven terrorists.

The young men and women at Kefar Etzion are repairing buildings and working in forests planted by the Jordan Government. Their fathers cultivated nearly 2,000 acres of land, now cultivated by Arabs, and the settlers are hoping that the Israel Government will take back the farmland—giving the Arabs new land elsewhere—and return it to the kibbutz.

Meanwhile, the Government is sending sheep and poultry. Food for the sheep was delivered by heavy lorries during my visit, as grass is sparse on the Hebron Hills.

The settlers are sure they are in occupied Jordan to stay. Rafi, who had worked on a neighbouring Jewish settlement 21 years ago, told me: "This has been a Jewish settlement, it is and will be".

What about the feelings of Arab neighbours? "We cannot live together, but side by side", Rafi said, recalling Palestinian days when Arabs and Jews visited each others' homes in the Hebron area. "I do not want to live as conqueror but as farmer near farmer."

What if the west bank were returned to Jordan? The settlement would not be an island in Jordan but a corridor to Jerusalem. Rafi said.

In Jerusalem, at the Foreign Ministry, the reply to the same question was that Israel did not believe there could ever be the same kind of iron curtain between her and the west bank. The settlement would remain.

On a clear day Tel Aviv can be seen from Kefar Etzion. The settlers are planning to hold classes in Arabic. They also hope that it may be possible to trade in Hebron, traditionally one of the most nationalist Arab towns, rather than look always towards Israel cities.

Banyas, at the mouth of the River Jordan, lies at the northern tip of Israel. The Israelis say that it belongs to them under the partition agreement, but was never inhabited by Israelis because it was too dangerously close to the Syrian guns. Now with the Golan heights held by Israel, Banyas is safe and the settlement of Nahal Snir has been set up.

The Foreign Ministry says the Banyas settlement need never be given up, but one cannot help observing that the Israel diplomatists would be reluctant to use the partition line argument in boundary disputes at other points of their perimeter.

The Nahal members are full of enthusiasm about their work at Banyas. Everything is new, they say, and they show off their new tractors and homes to the hundreds of visitors who come.

City deserted by Syrians

Nahal Snir, with its scores of members, aged about 19 and 20, took possession of a bare piece of land. As winter was approaching they moved quickly and already have 150 acres of wheat planted. They have





Mr. Eshkol, speaking of a greater Israel.

tractors, 20 prefabricated buildings, and plan poultry and beekeeping, cattle farming and, possibly, citrus fruit growing.

What is being prepared is not a temporary habitation. There is running piped water, ordinary telephone links with neighbouring settlements, and thought is being given to a future handover from the military Nahal to civilian settlers.

A few miles away from Banyas is Kuneitra, the main city of the Golan heights, deserted by its Syrian population and now held by a military command with access to the city carefully controlled. Close to it I was surprised to find another kibbutz being set up behind barbed wire with the leaders unwilling to talk about their work.

What they did not hide was their heavy farm machinery and the crop spraying equipment. What was also obvious on the Golan heights was the profusion of traffic signs and bus shelters put up by the Israel administration in what seems like a thorough bid to turn a Syrian landscape into the usual Israel urban scene.

Military presence maintained

More settlements are expected to be set up on the Golan heights and with the speed and efficiency that the Israelis bring to this kind of pioneering, it cannot be long before the Israel occupation of Golan becomes as difficult to unscramble as its hold on Jerusalem already is.

Holding Golan not only removes the threat of Syrian artillery dominating the Israel settlements in the fertile Galilee region, but also brings into Israel hands an important section of the Transarabian pipeline that carries oil from Saudi Arabia to Lebanon.

Israel has not yet made use of his circumstance, as far as is known, but with the Suez Canal still closed oil routes to the Mediterranean remain of critical imporance.

Israel's most unlikely settlement may be Nahal Yam, a fishing settlement on the Mediterranean coast of Sinai between El Arish and Port Fuad. Nahal Yam is on the lagoon of Bardawil.

Here men and women soldiers run four fishing boats taking enough fish not only to feed the settlement—for one of its meals each day—but also to send £100 worth of fish a day to the market at Ashkelon.

Israel has no shortage of fish and the purpose of the settlement is to help to maintain a military presence in Sinai particularly along the one good road from Gaza to El-Qantara on the Suez Canal.

Nahal Yam is the least permanent of the settlements and its future depends on the status of Sinai as a whole.

If Sinai were demilitarized or returned to Egypt there would be no purpose in retaining Nahal Yam. The settlers are living in tents, but have been there for one month only and may yet build rooms for eating and sleeping.

The Nahal group now working there expects to go to a kibbutz in Israel after a year's service in Sinai and its members are not yet deeply involved in what will happen to Bardawil.

Even so, the fishing project, while it lasts, is being given thorough attention. Refrigerators and ice crushing equipment have been brought from Israel. A jetty is to be built and a water survey to be made. The soil is good but fresh water is difficult to find and the settlers now use water brought from El Arish.

If peace talks are not held the development at Bardawil will not be slow in following the pace set by Israel settlers on the other frontiers of "Greater Israel".

DAVID HOTHAM

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up for th

Israelis plan to stay on.
From MICHAEL WOLFERS

The Times (London, England),Friday, Nov 10, 1967; pg. 8; Issue 57095.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS134442346

Britain urged to talk on Aden

NLF acts to protect firms

From NICHOLAS HERBERT, Aden, Nov. 10

The National Liberation Front today took steps to protect foreign financial and commercial firms and their staff in Aden. The high command issued a decree declaring that from today any attempt to damage or sabotage them would be considered a criminal act against the revolution. The N.L.F. commands and the Army were instructed to take the necessary steps to implement the resolution.

Mr. Saif Dhali, the N.L.F.'s chief political officer, also criticized Britain for not coming forward with a statement recognizing the N.L.F. as the sole representative of the people. If such a statement were not forthcoming it would be clear that Britain's policy was against the people of South Yemen, as the area is now known.

The N.L.F. had already formed a delegation to negotiate with Britain and once negotiations began attacks on British troops would cease. "There will be no war while there is negotiation. Negotiation means peace", he declared at a press conference in the Shaikh Othman area.

Absentees in Egypt

Some of the negotiators would be men who took part in the abortive negotiations with Flosy (Front for the Liberation of Occupied South Yemen) in Cairo, but Mr. Dhali said that there was no need to wait for their return before beginning talks with the High Commissioner. They were expected back soon, and the N.L.F. did not expect that the Egyptian authorities would arrest or detain them. He was unable, however, to give an adequate explanation for their continued absence, and this remains one of the mysteries in a mystifying situation. There has been some talk of Britain's anxiety to resume relations with Egypt being one reason for delay, but Egypt now has a vested interest in an orderly transfer so that the B.P. refinery at Little Aden can continue refining its oil.

There is now an almost desperate feeling here that the time for diplomacy by press conference is past, and I understand that the South Arabian Army has begun to urge the British authorities to get on with talks. A high level meeting was held this morning at which local army commanders put their point of view to Sir Humphrey Trevelyan, the High Commissioner. Admiral Sir Michael Le Fanu, the Commander-in-Chief, Middle East Command, Major-General P. T. Tower, General Officer Commanding Land Forces, and Brigadier J. Dye, Commander of the South Arabian Army, were also present. Sir Humphrey is understood to have said that he would study the Arab officers' recommendations and reply at a later meeting.

While the situation on the ground remains quiet at present, there have been reports of continued fighting in Lahej state, and everyone is aware that it would take only a small incident to ignite trouble between British and local forces, including conceivably the Army. The authorities here are apparently unanimous in the view that the required declaration must be made, and the onset of the British weekend is viewed with alarm, carrying as it does the possibility of continued lack of decision in London.

Politicians unpopular

Some nasty things are being muttered about politicians, both those who seem determined to involve the safety of British civilians in party politics and those who are swayed from their course by such tactics. Nerves are, perhaps, a little worn, but I have heard people wondering when the last M.P. came to Aden to study the situation for himself.

There has been some concern too over the decision to allow the R.A.F. to take part in an action at this delicate juncture. Mr. Dhali said today that he knew nothing about the decision to send in Hunter jet aircraft against a small invasion force from Yemen yesterday. However, the N.L.F. was totally opposed to the use of British aircraft against any of the people of South Yemen, even if they were opponents of the N.L.F. It did not accept that Britain had the right to bombard the people.

"If the British Government know anything about anyone crossing the borders and feel it is their duty to do something against them, that is the British Government's own affair", he added. He could not answer questions about the Army's role in asking for air support because he knew nothing about the matter.

This was an answer of some tactical skill, as the use of the R.A.F. alongside an army which is allied to a revolutionary movement is a fairly delicate issue at the best of times. Taiz radio in Yemen is understood to have begun already to use the incident as an opportunity to raise again the old cry that the N.L.F. is a stooge of British imperialism.

Difficulty over recognition

BY OUR DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The delay in opening talks with the National Liberation Front (N.L.F.) in Aden was due, it seems, to the difficulty of recognizing who the effective leaders of that most heterogeneous body are.

The N.L.F. has been up to now an underground organization. It has control of almost all, if not all, the hinterland and the support of the South Arabian Army has underpinned its success against the rival pro-U.A.R. nationalist organization Flosy in Aden itself.

What is needed now is for representatives to come forward and be recognized by the Army.

Britain urged to talk on Aden.
From NICHOLAS HEMBERT

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Nov 11, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57096.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS68513131

US accused over Middle East

Soviet strictures at UN

FROM OUR UNITED NATIONS CORRESPONDENT—
New York, Nov. 10

After getting off to a rough start, the Security Council has postponed further debate on the Middle East crisis until Monday to allow time for private talks designed, hopefully, to produce a consensus.

Israel declined to take the floor last night as seventh speaker, the Soviet Union having managed to prevent her from speaking immediately after Egypt in reply to the latter's charges—even though eight of the 15 council members favoured this course.

Israel's name was the seventh inscribed on the President's list, but normal practice in the council is to allow complainant and defendant to lead off and follow in a debate.

M. Abba Eban, the Israel Foreign Minister, has asked to be the first speaker when the council resumes its debate on Monday, but it is by no means certain that his wish will be granted.

Unless Moscow moderates its pro-Arab stand over the weekend it is hard to see how a consensus can be reached. Nothing is known here of the contents of the latest message which Mr. Kosygin, the Soviet Prime Minister, is reported to have sent to President Johnson, Mr. Wilson and President de Gaulle. Certainly, judging by last night's performance by Mr. Kuznetsov, the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, the Russian stand is as hard as ever.

Mr. Kuznetsov accused the United States of conniving at Israel's territorial aggrandizement. He described the American decision to supply new bombers to Israel as a hostile act against the Arabs. He rejected the American draft resolution as one which would "cover the aggression of Israel with the flag of the United Nations". He further said he would vote for the Indo-African draft provided the Arab states accepted it.

All this does not augur well for an agreed solution. Last night several countries, among them Denmark, Canada and Japan, and to a lesser degree Argentina and Ethiopia, expressed their dissatisfaction with the two alternative proposals and urged further consultations to help evolve what Mr. Tsuruoka, of Japan, called "A formulation which all could support."

For Britain, Lord Caradon also called for more consultations. He felt that until a United Nations special representative was sent to the Middle East there would be no progress.

New conflict inevitable, says UAR

CAIRO, Nov. 10.—Another war with Israel is inevitable because the search for a political solution has failed, but fighting will not be resumed in the near future, an article in *Al Ahram* said today.

The article, by the editor, Muhammad Hassanein Heykal, who is a close friend of President Nasser, also said that time was on the side of the Arabs rather than Israel. Even so, in the long run, war should only be used as a "last resort" and was "detestable".

He said a resumption of fighting depended on these factors:—

The Arab Army must not only receive weapons, but know how to use them.

The home front must be strengthened until it could support the battle-front.

It was no good one Arab country confronting the enemy without the full support of all the Arabs.

World opinion must understand the Arab cause and an international atmosphere favourable to the Arabs must develop.

Mr. Heykal considered that the search for a political solution in the past five months was "not useless", as war could not bring a final solution. — *Agence France Presse.*

PARIS, Nov. 10.—Egypt will not reopen the Suez Canal before Israel withdraws from the Sinai Desert, President Nasser said in an interview published in the review *L'Événement* today.—*Reuter.*

US accused over Middle East.
FROM OUR UNITED NATIONS CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Nov 11, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57096.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS84110699

Firing over Jordan river

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

TEL AVIV, Nov. 12

There was a four-hour exchange of shellfire across the Jordan today. Israel Army headquarters here said the Jordanians had opened flat trajectory fire at 6 a.m. and then used mortars. There were no Israel casualties.

The Cabinet today served notice on the United Nations that Israel would not cooperate with any representative of the United Nations Secretary-General, whose directives would interfere with her freedom of action in any forthcoming negotiations.

The import was that the India-Mali-Nigeria resolution before the Security Council, calling for the dispatch of a United Nations representative to arrange an unconditional withdrawal of Israel forces from territory seized in the June fighting, could not be implemented.

Houses damaged

The Cabinet also indicated reservations about an American proposal linking the withdrawal with an end to the state of war. Israel would determine her attitude towards United Nations resolutions on the basis of whether they accorded with the principle that direct negotiation with the Arabs leading to a peace treaty was the only possible way to settle the issues.

Our Amman correspondent writes:—

According to a Jordan military spokesman Israel forces opened fire across the Jordan from 106 m.m. guns on Arab farmers' houses on the opposite side of the river 30 miles north of Allenby bridge. This was followed by sporadic mortar fire. The Jordan forces did not return the fire. Some farmers' houses were damaged, but there was no loss of life.

Mr Brezhnev to visit Egypt

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

CAIRO, Nov. 12

Mr. Brezhnev, First Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, is to visit Egypt early next year. The invitation was issued on behalf of President Nasser by Ali Sabry, one of his Deputy Prime Ministers, who flew back to Cairo from Moscow today.

Mr. Brezhnev's visit seems to show that the Russians have ceased to quarrel, even fitfully, with President Nasser's ideology so long as it remains "progressive". Even more important to Egypt, this first visit of a Russian leader to an Arab country since the war with Israel seems to show that Russia still regards President Nasser as the titular Arab leader.

At the same time, apparently to maintain some balance between east and west, Cairo officials continue to refer to the coming restoration of diplomatic relations with Britain.

Aden may still be a source of embarrassment, but the press has not taken advantage of the verbal attacks on Britain by Flosy, which originally enjoyed the strong support of Sana and Cairo.

Muhsin al-Aini, the new Yemen Prime Minister, left Cairo today after a two-day visit during which he had discussions with President Nasser on Aden.

Firing over Jordan river.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Monday, Nov 13, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57097.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67988845

IMF talk with Arabs

Tomorrow a delegation of the International Monetary Fund, headed by its director of Middle East operations, John Gunther, begins talks with the U.A.R. economic ministry at one of the shakiest moments in the recent history of Egypt's shaky economy.

Cairo is not very happy about the I.M.F. In its latest report the Central Bank of Egypt, says: "The position of the I.M.F. *vis-à-vis* the developing countries is not generally satisfactory."

On the other hand, the I.M.F. is not entirely satisfied with Egypt, which has already drawn almost all her $150m. quota and also owes about $50m. in unrepaid debt since the beginning of this year. Although Egypt has made commendable efforts to reduce her balance of trade deficit, it is still running at $275m. a year.

Dr. Kaissuny, Egypt's Minister of Planning, told a foreign financier the other day that the country needed about $400m. in hard currency in any year just to keep ticking and at the moment there was only between $100m. and $150m. available—he could not tell exactly how much because there were so many hands on the chequebook.

Today it was stated that during the next six months $287m. would be made available for purchasing general goods and spare parts in "free currency".

Officially Egypt's foreign exchange reserves stand at $46m. in currency and slightly less than double this again in gold. This should have risen slightly over the past month with payments ex-Saudi Arabia and Libya in compensation for the U.A.R.'s loss of revenue in Canal tolls. But against this there is a total long-term indebtedness of over $1,000m., exclusive of another $220m. to the I.M.F.

IMF talk with Arabs.
The Times (London, England),Monday, Nov 13, 1967; pg. 20; Issue 57097.

Category: Business and Finance

Gale Document Number:CS336686445

BRITISH PRESENCE IN THE GULF—I

Keeping the peace to protect the supply of oil

By Charles Douglas-Home, Defence Correspondent

There are now 6,000 British troops in the Persian Gulf stationed at Bahrain and Sharjah. They are there because the Government believe that if they were withdrawn there would be the danger of a conflict which would endanger Britain's stake in the Persian Gulf oil. This could, in Mr. Healey's words, cause millions of unemployed in Britain. Mr. Healey has said that though commercial oil agreements exist, much of the oil is produced in tiny countries which cannot protect themselves and might be attacked by their large neighbours if Britain withdrew her protection, and that this could result in oil supplies being physically interrupted for a very long period.

There are other political factors in the area not directly connected with oil, but no political assessment of the area can be meaningful except in the peculiar perspective created by the economics of oil. Apart from the general interest of the West in Middle East oil Britain has a particular concern in the area for three main reasons. First of all Britain owns a share of more than 30 per cent of the oil companies operating in the Gulf, which brings in foreign exchange of at least £200m. a year. These royalties would not come in if the oil companies operating the concessions were nationalized, but there is a whole array of commercial sanctions against nationalization which could be introduced by the international oil industry. The commercial reprisals taken by the oil companies against Iran after the 1950 nationalization have not gone unnoticed elsewhere in the Gulf, and indeed Iran has never fully recovered the position she held before 1950. But there is no possible military sanction against nationalization by any of the big powers or the big producers in the Gulf.

STERLING DEPOSITS

It is only with respect to the small territories that the British presence is seen to be, in a roundabout way, a defence against nationalization. The treaty relationship with the Trucial States is complicated, but in theory Britain would be justified in reclaiming by force any oil installations which were nationalized. In practice, the sanction against nationalization is more likely to be the threat of the *withdrawal* of the British military protection over local rulers than the threat of intervention.

Underlying the British approach to nationalization, however, is the belief that the small oil producing states in the Gulf have not yet reached the level of commercial or political sophistication to understand the dangers of nationalization. Nor have the financial benefits of oil sufficiently permeated their societies to make them pause before taking a primitive political decision like nationalization which might override their real interest. But it is certainly true too that the more small states there are, the less likelihood there is of them driving a hard bargain with the oil companies.

Secondly, we have an interest in the status quo because we have a physical as well as a financial interest in the oil. The Government are reviewing our energy needs and are trying to ease Britain's reliance on oil from the Gulf which last year amounted to 49 per cent of our total oil consumption. But even though consumption of Gulf oil will decrease as a proportion of the whole, the actual quantity of oil consumed will continue to rise in line with a general increase in our energy requirements.

Persian Gulf Oil Production
(Million tons)

Abu Dhabi	17.0
Bahrain	3.0
Iran	105.0
Iraq	68.0
Kuwait	114.0
Neutral Zone	22.0
Qatar	13.0
Saudi Arabia	119.0
	461.0

U.K. Oil Imports 1966
(Percentage of total 91.7 million tons)

Kuwait	17.7
Iraq	11.3
Saudi Arabia	7.2
Iran	5.0
Qatar, Abu Dhabi and Bahrain	5.2
Aden	1.2
Egypt (U.A.R.)	0.3
Total Middle East	47.9
Africa	20.4
Europe	15.0
North and Latin America	13.7
Others	3.0
	100.0

Thirdly, our position in the Gulf means that the oil producing states hold large deposits in sterling and with sterling's current predicament, that is not something to be ignored. In the present balance of payments situation a very high premium is obviously put on foreign exchange. The official argument holds that the oil from the Gulf, even after deducting the cost of stationing troops, is producing nearly £200m. annually in foreign exchange, and that therefore any change in the position would open up the risk not only of this loss, but a possible capital loss of £900m., which has been invested in the area—all in exchange for saving the £20m. annual defence costs.

In fact, the variety of different oil situations in the Gulf makes it hard to justify the generalized approach to the subject adopted by Mr. Healey. As the tables show, most of Britain's oil consumption comes from the four big producers, Kuwait, Iraq, Iran, and Saudi Arabia, of which only Kuwait has any direct connexion with the British military presence. It is worth remembering incidentally that the oil companies calculate that Britain could survive, without rationing, the denial of any two of these major sources of oil at one time. Reserves are already adequate to tide the country over the transitional period to reliance on other sources. The first question, therefore, must be whether there are any conditions in the Gulf in which we could prevent or deter the big states denying us their oil if they felt so inclined.

That possibility has already been tested over the Israel question this year. It appears that the pressure on oil producing countries from their own development programmes and social expenditures—not to mention high levels of defence spending—make it hard for them voluntarily to deny themselves for long this revenue when they are probably already committed to such enormous long term projects.

The situation is sometimes aggravated by the belief in the Middle East that the oil companies are getting away with enormous profits from their production, and this occasionally leads to excessive demands for royalties. In fact the oil companies have only a limited margin for manoeuvre, since the industry functions in such a way that the production process, although it brings in the big profits, requires only one-quarter of the capital invested—the other three-quarters being required in distribution and marketing down the line.

There is obviously pressure too for more Arabization of the firms, but there is even a limit to that as recognized indeed by local governments themselves who would probably in their hearts shy away from the thought that the local oil company could be completely dominated by their own nationals, since in many of these countries the oil company, being the main source of revenue and often the only centre for educated, managerial talent, could easily become a new centre of power in a country if it was totally given over to Arab personnel.

As far as consumption goes, the small oil producing states only at present supply about 5 per cent of Britain's needs. So from the point of view of supplies there is virtually no military sanction possessed by Britain to assure the continuation of supplies in any meaningful quantity if the big powers in the area specifically decide not to provide them. The British investment in, and extraction of, oil from the Trucial States is still small compared to the rest of the Gulf, and would not be adequate either as a financial operation or as a physical source of supply without the other large areas.

INTEREST IN STABILITY

Thus the British military presence has no direct application to the oil situation. It is more generally geared to preventing a political situation where the big countries in the area might too actively pursue their claims of sovereignty over their smaller neighbours leading to conflict with other neighbours possibly holding competing claims. It is the official British fear that such a situation would lead to a collapse of political stability in the area which, on the Nigerian pattern, might result in the stoppage of oil supplies, and that this would be economically catastrophic to Britain at this time.

It is the way in which political instability might endanger the oil situation which causes Britain's overall interest in stability more than, as Mr. Healey remarked, what some people would consider to be a moral duty to prevent war if we are capable of doing so. But he did admit that if the situation developed in such a way that our presence became an irritant rather than a stabilizing factor, that would be one of the signals for us to reduce. That would seem to imply an admission that the British position in the Gulf, even over oil, does not derive from an absolute need but rather from a calculation of what is best at any one time. The British official view would be that although the oil might continue to flow satisfactorily in a variety of other political conditions, there is no reason why Britain individually should risk experimenting in the area by putting this supposition to the test—unless she has to.

Tomorrow: The political factors.

Keeping the peace to protect the supply of oil.
By Charles Douglas-Home, Defence Correspondent

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Nov 14, 1967; pg. 11; Issue 57098.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS185822574

A VERY FOOLISH THREAT

It is too early to take seriously MR. ABDEL FATTAH ISMAIL'S threat to close the Red Sea to Israel shipping by installing batteries on Perim Island. For one thing, it is not at all clear who MR. ISMAIL is nor what authority he has to speak on behalf of the N.L.F. That shadowy body has yet to emerge from its chrysalis of conspiracy and to present itself to the world as a credible government of South Arabia. MR. ISMAIL'S utterances bear the mark of a man claiming more authority than he is entitled to. There is also the strong possibility that the threat is a propaganda manoeuvre designed to convince Syria, Egypt, and Algeria, which all support Flosy, that N.L.F. is an authentic, extremist Arab party, as intractably anti-Israel as they. The chief reason to doubt the seriousness of the threat is its extreme foolishness.

Bottling up the mouth of the Red Sea would be a difficult operation, quite beyond the abilities of the South Arabian armed forces. It would also be very costly, and South Arabia seems destined to be born bankrupt, unless Britain (or someone else ?) gives it a vast dowry, and it is quite clear Britain is not going to pay for blocking the Red Sea. Independent South Arabia, then, would have to call for help, and the only power which might do it would be Egypt. Russia, a maritime power with strong views on the sanctity of international waterways, would hardly underwrite such an unlikely adventure.

With Egyptian guns, and presumably gunners, installed in Perim, the question would arise whose ships to stop. No ships destined for Israel were allowed through Suez. It is improbable that Britain or America would allow their ships to be stopped on the high seas, especially when the blockading force would be so vulnerable to British retaliation from MR. HEALEY'S Indian Ocean strike force.

If only Israeli ships are to be stopped, then South Arabia would, in effect, have declared war on Israel. Perhaps MR. ISMAIL thinks this has already been done, before South Arabia is even independent. The Israeli General Staff might then give its mind to the considerable problems of how to occupy Perim, or even Aden. But a far more likely retaliatory target lies across the Suez Canal. If only for fear of seeing the Israelis in Cairo, the Egyptians who alone might do it are in fact most unlikely to support the belligerence of the N.L.F.'s man in Beirut.

A Very Foolish Threat.
The Times (London, England),Thursday, Nov 16, 1967; pg. 11; Issue 57100.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS185036144

BP refines oil in Aden for Egypt

CAIRO, Nov. 16

Informed sources have reported that Soviet tankers will shuttle Egyptian oil to and from a British refinery at Aden, in an arrangement designed to offset the effects of the Israeli shelling of refineries at Suez.

The arrangement, which will make the Egyptian economy more dependent on the Soviet Union and Britain, came about after the Egyptions lost 80 per cent of their petroleum producing capacity in an attack staged in retaliation for the sinking of an Israeli destroyer, the Elath.

The British Petroleum Co. announced in London that its Aden refinery would process up to 200,000 tons a month of Egyptian crude oil for the Egyptian Government's General Petroleum Corporation. This is about half of the U.A.R.'s petroleum needs. The sources said that the Soviet tankers would do a large part of the transporting of the crude oil through the Red Sea to the Aden refinery, and returning the refined oil.

At least two Soviet tankers and some Egyptians vessels have already carried oil to the refinery, the sources said. Domestic oil is important to the Egyptian economy, which was jolted by the June war with Israel and by the subsequent loss of foreign exchange earnings from tourism and the Suez Canal.

Cairo is to pay oil processing fees to British Petroleum, in pounds sterling, but the monthly amount was not immediately disclosed.

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BP refines oil in Aden for Egypt.
The Times (London, England),Friday, Nov 17, 1967; pg. 21; Issue 57101.

Category: Business and Finance

Gale Document Number:CS353856881

Nasser move on freedom of thought

FROM RAWLE KNOX

CAIRO, Nov. 17

President Nasser is trying to introduce a new liberalization of thought in Egypt, but is finding it difficult to progress against officials and representatives groomed in the safety of authoritarianism. This is the burden of the weekly sermon issued today by Mr. Hassanein Haikal, the influential editor of the Cairo *Al Ahram*. Mr. Haikal is one of President Nasser's few personal friends.

Over the past two weeks the release of the Muslim Brotherhood *détenus*, the return of property to the old "reactionaries", the review of cases of dismissed civil servants and the open question and answer meetings held by the Arab Socialist Union, the only legitimate political party in Egypt, have shown clearly enough the lines on which President Nasser is thinking. Mr. Haikal had attended some of those meetings and was disappointed, not with the questions which he found eager, pertinent and intelligent, but with the perfunctory answers.

He writes: "Sometimes we confuse slogans with information, whether they are thoughts or facts. That is to say, we talk too much but finally we say nothing."

Mr. Haikal's main thesis is that by demanding that President Nasser remain in power after he had admitted the Egyptian defeat, the people in effect said: "Stay with us, we know there will have to be changes because things have gone wrong, only let us understand what the changes are to be and we will support them."

Nasser move on freedom of thought.
FROM RAWLE KNOX

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Nov 18, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57102.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS86338930

Yemen expels two journalists

CAIRO, Nov. 19.—The Yemen Government today ordered two journalists—Khader Nasser of Regional News Services, which is based in Beirut, and Mr. Thomas Brady of the *New York Times*—to leave the country for reporting "false news", the Middle East news agency said tonight.

The agency report, from Sana, Yemen's capital, said the journalists were due to leave tomorrow for Asmara.—*Reuter.*

Links with Cairo to be renewed

FROM OUR DIPLOMATIC STAFF

Britain and Egypt are to resume diplomatic relations next month, almost two years after they were broken off by Egypt because Britain refused to use force in Rhodesia. The Foreign Office said yesterday that no conditions were involved.

The British Ambassador is expected to be Sir Harold Beeley.

News in Brief.
The Times (London, England),Monday, Nov 20, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57103.

Category: News in Brief

Gale Document Number:CS85290356

Divided aims in Palestine

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT—Jerusalem, Nov. 19

The occupation of Jordan territories by Israel in the six-day war has fanned the embers of the Palestinian movement on the west bank of the Jordan.

The difficulties of establishing any real Palestinian independence at this stage of Middle East history would, however, seem to be insuperable.

What remains of Palestine after nearly 20 years of Israel and Jordan nationhood is a half-world of men who have served under Turkish, British, Jordan, and now Israel occupation rule; and of men and women who under these regimes have lost land, possessions, and status.

For many, a succession of lost hopes has led to apathy. Men who 20 years ago fled from Arab towns like Jaffa to make new lives in Jerusalem were too tired and old after this year's war to seek yet another adjustment. They have remained in east Jerusalem and the west bank towns close by and follow with resignation the protracted debates at the United Nations in New York. Some of them say that the war was not fought for them, and their cry for peace is as passionately voiced as that of the Israelis.

The men who are not apathetic and who are busy devising new ways of analysing the situation are in a minority, and within the minority advocate conflicting courses of action.

The popular orthodoxy on the west bank is that the political alternative before the people—although not one that can be tested by a vote—is between Jordan and Israel, and the choice would be overwhelmingly for Jordan. Any view which differs from this seems to some extent a self indulgence by the holder.

The argument of the neo-Palestinians is that the Jordanians treated the Palestinians as second-class citizens and that the disruption of Hashemite power creates the opportunity for ensuring Palestinians a better deal.

In the discussions I have heard on what is to be done now the Palestinians conceded three serious obstacles. The likelihood of Palestinians being given a voice in the international debate is small; any Palestinian plan is likely to be regarded by Israel and Jordan as collaboration with the opposing interest; and Palestinians now have no effective leadership and no machinery for identifying a representative body of opinion.

Three options

To categorize the possible schemes is to impose a false symmetry on the present political chaos, but it can be loosely done. The cynical analysis is that people who have property interests in Amman favour speedy reunion with Jordan, and that those whose livelihoods are rooted in the west bank favour a measure of independence. The south of this region is regarded as more Palestine-minded and the north more militantly for Amman.

Three options have been canvassed: a Palestine state in cooperation with Israel, a reunion with Jordan, and a Palestine entity in cooperation with Jordan but with substantial demands and safeguards for Palestinians.

The movement for the first option, which could, in the absence of a Middle East peace, be politically convenient for Israel, has not aroused visible popular support. The Palestine entity would consist of the west bank of the Jordan and the Gaza strip, but because its existence would ease the administrative and defence burden on Israel, the entity supporters are regarded by Arab nationalists as traitors. The entity movement is based on Hebron, but its leader lies ill in an east Jerusalem hospital.

The movement for reunion with Jordan is supported by the older politicians and by many of the professional men who feel the west bank gives too cramped a living space. In return for their loyalty they expect to receive special favour from the Jordanians. At the moment they have no effective political contact with Amman, though businessmen can cross the Jordan and return, and it is possible that even if the west bank is returned Jordan memories may be short.

The third option is for federation with Jordan, but on terms that Amman would be unlikely to accept.

Even where the motives for a Palestinian identity are agreed the method of establishing it and the timing may be in dispute. In Ramallah, a west bank marketing centre near here, I asked Dr. Hamdi Faruqi what the future of Palestine was. He said that Palestinians felt ill-used by the great powers and by the Arab countries and needed some piece of land to call their own. The solution would be to reawaken the United Nations partition plan and to create a Palestinian territory.

"If Israel wants peace, she has to pay for it—with the partition plan amended", he said. His new state would be under United Nations supervision but with a leaning towards Jordan. He also put in two provisos which seem broad enough to kill the plan. The new state must include a section of what is now northern Israel, a condition to which Israel would not agree.

Dr. Faruqi, a former supporter of the left-wing Baath party, also demands that his plan must be accomplished without any approaches to Israel. He is waiting for the initiative to come from Egypt, an eventuality which seems fanciful under present conditions.

Divided aims in Palestine.
FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT-

The Times (London, England),Monday, Nov 20, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57103.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS101805428

Fire in airliner

MUNICH, Nov. 20.—Fire broke out in a Pan American DC-8 airliner soon after it took off from here last night. The aircraft, bound for London and New York with 23 passengers and seven crew, returned to Munich and landed safely, the airline said. One person was injured.—*Reuter.*

Russia to equip UAR refinery

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

CAIRO, NOV. 20

Russia has provided Egypt with machinery for the establishment of a new oil refinery. Two Soviet vessels arrived at Alexandria today carrying the equipment. No further details are available.

News in Brief.
The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Nov 21, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57104.

Category: News in Brief

Gale Document Number:CS68644213

PARLIAMENT

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1967

Commons: persuading Egypt to reopen canal

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 2.30 p.m.

MR. MARTEN (Banbury, C.) asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs for a statement on the British ships trapped in the Great Bitter Lakes.

If (he said) an international force, including dredgers, attempted to clear this international waterway south of the Bitter Lakes and liberate these ships, does the Foreign Secretary seriously think that the Israelis or the Egyptians would attack it?

MR. GEORGE BROWN (Belper, Lab.):—The hon. member has asked me to go into areas I would prefer not to. We are doing what we can, with the other nations concerned, both to get the ships out of the Bitter Lakes and the canal open. This is an urgent requirement of ours and of other people.

MR. ELDON GRIFFITHS (Bury St. Edmunds, C.):—Is the Foreign Secretary strongly pressing on President Nasser the feeling in this country that if our ships continue to be blocked or left marooned in the Suez Canal it will be difficult to commend to the British people the resumption of diplomatic relations.

MR. BROWN:—I would not want to link them like that, but I am pressing on the United Arab Republic authorities, and others who can help, the need to get these ships out.

I was encouraged the other day to get a letter from the skippers of the four British ships. It was written in very warm terms which showed morale to be high. They said they had formed an Association of Bitter Lakes and they were inviting me to become the only non-time-serving member of it. (Laughter and cheers.)

MR. OGDEN (Liverpool, West Derby, Lab.):—Many in the House will expect that the resumption of diplomatic relations between this country and Egypt will be speedily followed by the removal of the physical and diplomatic obstacles to these ships.

MR. BROWN.—I suggest that we do not link these two objectives together—(Opposition cries of "Why not?")—because the question of the canal is linked with a lot of other issues on which negotiations are going on among a lot of countries. I suggest that it would be wise to keep it there.

SIR ALEC DOUGLAS-HOME (Kinross and West Perthshire, C.):—Should not this be linked with the British ships in the lakes? Surely the Foreign Secretary can confirm that Sir Harold Beeley has talked about this with the President of Egypt? How long will it take to clear the canal, part of which, I understand, has silted up?

MR. BROWN.—On the question of representations to the President of the U.A.R., *Sir Harold Beeley* raised this and, on my insistence, he visited the ships. As a result of that I had the latter from the masters.

Of course we are making representations in Cairo, but when we have resumed relations and have an embassy there we will be better placed to make them than we are now

Military aid not envisaged

MR. WALL (Haltemprice, C.) asked the Foreign Secretary for a statement on Aden.

MR. G. BROWN.—The situation in Aden and South Arabia remains quiet. Talks between the British Government and the National Liberation Front are to begin in Geneva tomorrow. I cannot yet estimate how long they will take.

MR. SANDYS (Streatham, C.):—Can the Foreign Secretary assure us that he will not promise arms or military aid of any other kind to the N.L.F. regime?

MR. BROWN.—I can give no such assurance. We are going into negotiations with authority which I hope, will be the successor government of South Arabia. It would be wrong to limit what we are going to negotiate with them about before the negotiations begin.

SIR A. DOUGLAS-HOME.—Are we not in danger of falling into a trap? If we supply military aid following what is bound to be a hastily-negotiated independence, we may easily find ourselves supporting one side or another in a civil war, and this we must not do.

MR. BROWN.—I do not see any circumstances in which the supply of military aid as such will be required either by them or in our interest to give.

Negotiations are about to begin. We are within less than a fortnight of the final date for our troops to come out. The establishment of a successor authority is very important. We would do no good if I were to start laying down the areas within which negotiations are to take place.

Work stops on 9,000 homes

MR. ROSSI (Hornsey, C.) asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government to what extent the figure of 353,000 houses started in the first nine months of 1967 included starts made before April 6, 1967, to avoid liability for betterment levy, but on which development had now stopped.

MR. MacCOLL, Parliamentary Secretary, in a written reply, stated: *It is estimated* on the basis of returns from a sample of local authorities that, at the end of September, work was stopped on about 9,000 dwellings which are included in the figure for starts in 1967 and which had been started early because of the betterment levy.

Chancellor sets out devaluation objectives: no overall deflation but shift of resources into exports: benefits in 1969

MR. CALLAGHAN, Chancellor of the Exchequer (Cardiff, South-East, Lab.), in his statement about measures announced by the Government during the weekend, which he began against a shout of "Resign" and "Out" from the Conservative benches, countered by ministerial cheers, said:

This change in the value of the £ will, of course, have the effect that the things we buy from abroad will cost us more and things we sell abroad will become cheaper for foreigners to buy.

This has both advantages and disadvantages. On the credit side there will be substantial help to our balance of payments.

On the other hand, because we shall need to pay higher prices for some of our imports, we must expect in the coming months a small but noticeable rise in prices. There will be no need for all prices to rise and the Government intend to maintain a careful check on the movement of prices in the coming months to ensure that there are no unnecessary increases.

Because some rise in prices is inevitable, the Government will take at the right time the steps that may be necessary to protect the most vulnerable sections of the community from hardships.

This will not be done by increasing overall demand—by bringing about, in a non-inflationary manner, the required redistribution of purchasing power for the benefit of those who are worst off and who would otherwise suffer.

The advantage of devaluation is that it sharpens our competitive edge. From now on it will be markedly cheaper for overseas customers to buy British exports. This offers us a great opportunity to increase our overseas sales.

The moment has now come for all manufacturers, designers, salesmen to cash in on the entirely useful and favourable conditions which the change in the exchange rate has created in overseas markets. (Opposition cries of "Resign".) This opportunity needs to be exploited with vigour.

This is an advantage that we must keep. It could be frittered away if delivery dates were not kept, quality was not up to standard, and large wage claims were made and conceded, which would have the effect of increasing the cost of our goods. This remains true in spite of *rising prices*. Where there are large and genuine increases in productivity, *this can be reflected in* wage bargaining.

The Government have already begun consultations with the T.U.C. and the C.B.I. on the existing prices and incomes policy, to ensure that it measures up to the needs of the new situation. As I said in my statement on Sunday, a strict watch will be maintained on dividends.

The *primary* purpose of this change in the rate is to enable this country to secure lasting and substantial improvement in its balance of payments—of at least £500m. a year. Such a change round would have a profoundly beneficial effect on all aspects of our policy: on our foreign policy, our standing in the world, and our prospects for the securing economic growth and full employment.

But it would all be dissipated if the inevitable rise in prices were matched by a general increase in wage rates.

This is what I meant in July when I said: "Those who advocate devaluation are calling for a reduction in the wage levels and the real wage standards of every member of the working class of this country". (Opposition interruptions.)

The position is this. Without devaluation, during the course of 1968 personal incomes would have gone up by 3 per cent but we would not have had a subsequent — and unacceptable — balance of payments deficit.

As I see the situation developing after devaluation, the bulk of the increase in personal incomes in 1968 and 1969 can be *

Commons: persuading Egypt to reopen canal.
The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Nov 21, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57104.

Category: Politics and Parliament

Gale Document Number:CS100887925

NASSER REJECTS ISRAEL PEACE

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT—Cairo, Nov. 23

No matter what the cost. Israel ships would never pass through the Suez Canal, President Nasser told the Egyptian National Assembly tonight.

This would appear to mean a rejection of the British resolution which was accepted by the United Nations Security Council yesterday, but nowhere in his speech did President Nasser categorically reject it.

While Egypt was trying to restore the strength of its armed forces, he said, it must pursue its cause through diplomacy, but "what is taken by force should be restored with force". Egypt's economy in future would be a war economy.

He demanded the complete withdrawal of the Israelis from every inch of Arab land occupied in June. "This is not to be bargained with." After the passing of the Security Council resolution, it was now necessary to have a new Arab summit conference.

President Nasser thanked Russia for quickly supplying the Egyptian armed forces with new arms and equipment after the June war with Israel. He said that Mr. Ali Sabry, a deputy Prime Minister, on his recent visit to Moscow, had been assured by Mr. Brezhnev, the First Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, that Russia would continue to support the Arabs.

Our United Nations Correspondent writes:—

U Thant, the Secretary-General, has informed all the parties to the Middle East conflict of his intention to send Mr. Gunnar Jarring of Sweden as his special representative to the area, charged with the task of promoting a settlement.

Syria rejects peace plan, page 5; Leading article, page 11.

Pilots plan 48-hour strike

BY ARTHUR REED, AIR CORRESPONDENT

B.O.A.C. pilots will strike for 48 hours early next month if direct talks with the airline have not begun by then, the central council of the British Airline Pilots' Association (Balpa) agreed yesterday. A full-scale stoppage could follow.

Balpa said they were withholding details in order not to prejudice the outcome of the round of talks being held.

NUR head chides locomen

BY OUR LABOUR STAFF

The threat by locomotive drivers to refuse to allow guards in their cabs, which could lead to a fresh dislocation of railway ser-

Nasser Rejects Israel Peace.
FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT-Cairo, Nov. 23

The Times (London, England),Friday, Nov 24, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 57107.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS17657208

2.—HOW STRONG A RESOLUTION?

Of course it is an excellent thing to have a resolution on the Middle East passed unanimously by the Security Council, and it is a pleasant surprise for Britain to find itself parent of such an unexpected baby. There were, it seemed, at least two positive gains in the resolution. The first was the call for the appointment of a special representative of U THANT to go to the Middle East and "establish and maintain contacts with the states concerned" with a view to a permanent settlement. The second was the admission by everyone, including by implication the Arabs, that Israel existed as a state and had a right to "secure and recognized boundaries free from threats or acts of force". Both could be marked up as victories for realism.

But there is still a large element of unreality in the resolution inasmuch as it is open to different interpretation by the combatants. Ever since the fighting stopped in June the Arabs have been demanding that the Israelis should withdraw and the Israelis have been saying that the Arabs should negotiate. The resolution covers both points but gives neither priority. Presumably it will be up to U THANT's representative (he is not called a mediator but would have to be one) to shuttle from one side to the other until both processes — withdrawal and talks — are going simultaneously.

Israel's attitude to the mediator is somewhat sceptical. MR. EBAN said last week that Israel would cooperate with him only if his mandate "did not prejudice our policies or our negotiating position". This means that Israel will accept no substitute for direct negotiations with the Arabs. The Arabs set their faces as firmly against this as ever. Indeed, PRESIDENT NASSER yesterday spoke in terms which made nonsense of the United Nations resolution. Israel's withdrawal, he said, was something there can be no bargaining about. The Khartum summit position had to be maintained—"that is, non-recognition of Israel, no negotiations with Israel, and no peace with Israel".

It is up to the unfortunate mediator to discover whether there are any doveish thoughts behind all these hawkish words. There would be no point in his setting out—and no meaning in the Security Council vote—if there were none. Soundings on both sides have in the past given some hope. More recent actions —the clash over the Jordan on Tuesday, the arms build-up in Egypt and Syria—have diminished that hope. The mediator will have to be a tough negotiator, and he does not stand much chance unless the Security Council goes on backing him.

2.-How Strong A Resolution?.
The Times (London, England),Friday, Nov 24, 1967; pg. 11; Issue 57107.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS184905080

THE TIMES DIARY

Will Oxford too elect a woman?
Taking the pulse of Cairo
Thorpe's Gold Ribbon snipped

THE Oxford Union may well follow Cambridge and elect a woman president on Friday. Miss Geraldine Jones, of St. Hugh's, the present junior librarian, is making her second bid for the office. This time most of the union pundits think she will win with a plump majority.

Both Miss Jones and her opponent, Mark Moroney, of Exeter College, the junior treasurer, come from Liverpool. She went to a local grammar school, Mr. Moroney to Beaumont. Moroney is a Roman Catholic and a past secretary of the Oxford University Conservative Association. She is a Liberal. Both have wide experience in the administration of the union, holding two offices apiece on their way up the ladder.

This term, for the first time since union membership was open to women, there is as high a proportion of women members of the union as there is of women in the university. This factor is expected to weigh heavily in favour of Miss Jones—and freshmen will not recall the anti-feminist feeling which defeated both her and Miss Morgan last year.

The successful visit of Miss Ann Mallalieu, the Cambridge Union president, in the drugs debate at the beginning of term, is expected to help her too. But some think that Oxford's traditional aversion from women may still prove too strong.

"I'll vote for her", said one prominent union figure, "but I'm afraid no woman has a chance for at least a year."



Geraldine Jones

Not from her knees

ALTHOUGH President Nasser's tough speech to the Egyptian National Assembly on Thursday was widely regarded in western capitals as a blow to peace hopes in the Middle East, it came as a much-needed fillip to Egyptians whose morale has been low since the defeat in the June war.

In fact, reports a colleague just back from Cairo, even Nasser's middle-class critics, whose numbers have been swelling although they have so far remained silent, have for the moment rallied behind him. Although the overwhelming wish is for a peace settlement, they agree with Nasser that Egypt should not negotiate from her knees.

"When we lost, the impossible happened; everything else since that only added to our hopelessness", observed one very prominent Egyptian newspaper editor. "Nasser has indicated that he is willing to give all that is necessary for peace. And we are still willing to give that. But his speech has given us hope that we will not give with a gun at our head. This is not the old drum-beat but a question of dignity."

So far the ultimate economic effects of the war have not hit the people, and the Government is pushing ahead with its projects, particularly Aswan, which only recently began producing more electricity for the city—well ahead of schedule. A new element of efficiency has come to Egypt since the war. So humiliated have the Egyptians been that whenever business or social obligations are not honoured these days, the common retort is: "That's just the reason why we lost the war."

No more hob-nobbing

QUIETLY and without funereal pomp, the Gold Ribbon Club—founded just over a year ago to raise funds for the Liberal Party and give the rank-and-file a glimpse of the Liberal nobility in their natural habitat—has died and been decently interred.

Gold Ribbon was launched at the 1966 party conference, with Mr. Thorpe as an enthusiastic backer. The idea was that members would pay for the privilege of hob-nobbing with the privileged. But it ran into trouble because the "snob element" in this ingenious plan was thought by some to accord ill with party principles.

Mr. Timothy Beaumont, whose own ennoblement is imminent, but who even as a wealthy commoner held open house at Hampstead with a barbecue for the Gold Ribbon's



Timothy Beaumont

curious, says: "It had perhaps a slightly unfortunate image, and it was financially only a moderate success. Nothing like the Liberal Women's Christmas Shop in Wigmore Street, which is taking £500 a day. I think my barbecue raised something like £50.

"The club is being merged with the Liberal Social Council, which is meant to do very much the same sort of thing, but hasn't been terribly lively in recent years. It was felt there wasn't room for both, but the council will be able to take on any of the Gold Ribbon activities it wants to."

A living and a fortune?

ALL dons, in a sense, make their living from books, Dr. Robin Alston, lecturer in English at Leeds University, seems well set to make a fortune from them. He has started a publishing house called The Scolar Press, which microfilms rare manuscripts and books and reprints them in facsimile.

"It's tied up with my own experience as a university teacher", he explains. "Very few university libraries have these original sources, and with the tremendous growth in higher education, a whole generation of students in studying the past secondhand, I decided to make these unavailable sources available."

Dr. Alston, 34, started the press two years ago from his own home. This year the firm practically fills a factory, and its turnover is £40,000; next year he estimates that it will be nearer £70,000.

The mainstays are his own *Bibliography of the English Language from Caxton to the 18th Century*—a 20-volume project which costs £75 a set—and its pullulating offspring: a 365-volume set of facsimiles of the most significant works in the bibliography. Thus far 170 sets have been ordered, largely by American universities, at £2,600 each.

He began the research for the bibliography in 1960, toured Continental and American libraries and corresponded with others he could not visit. "I turned up some extraordinary books in Russia and Japan, and found one very rare work in a tiny municipal library in Germany. I discovered far more sources than people imagined. It was exciting enough to tell scholars these books existed, and even better to make them available."

Dr. Alston hawked the bibliography project round publishers without success. "I offered it to almost every publisher and University press. They said it was a lunatic scheme; that no one man could do it." He has just sent the sixth volume to the printers (the previous five are already sold out), and published 52 volumes of the bibliographical facsimiles and a further 17 in the general series of facsimiles to boot.

BECAUSE of the huge glut of apples in west Germany this year, the Defence Ministry has encouraged the 360,000 soldiers in the Bundeswehr to eat a kilo of apples each a week. But alas, the Ministry has been obliged to record that the best cooperation by the troops has had "no appreciable impact on the apple market".

The Ministry calculates that even if all ranks play their full part in "operation apple", with the best munch in the world they can only get through 10,000 tons a year. But the 1967 apple harvest is almost two million tons, 36 per cent higher than the average crop over the past five years.

Operas galore

THE B.B.C., it appears, is quietly becoming Britain's largest single patron of contemporary opera. Apart from the Benjamin Britten commission I mentioned recently, the corporation has another five works in various stages of completion.

In the main, the librettists are new to the field; Elwyn Jones is a *Z-Cars* and *Softly Softly* writer, John Hopkins, Alun Owen and Bernard Kops are playwrights, and Ronald Duncan is a poet. The composers are Wilfred Josephs, Christopher Whelen, Marc Wilkinson, Norman Kay and Tom Eastwood.

"We've arranged one or two marriages, but the others just came together", says Cedric Messina, head of B.B.C. opera. "We actually started a couple of years ago, but it's taken a long time for the tree to bear fruit."

Elwyn Jones and John Hopkins, he says, are "operatic aficionados". Jones has teamed with Marc Wilkinson, director of music at the National Theatre, to adapt a science fiction story by J. G. Ballard called *The Sound Sleep*. This would seem a natural, as an opera singer and music are part of the story.

Anglo-Saxon mountaineer

SIR ARNOLD LUNN, the 79-year-old Roman Catholic writer and mountaineer, has just completed his autobiography. Its title, *Unkilled for So Long*, came from a Swiss lady when he narrowly escaped being run over in Zurich. "I wonder you have remained unkilled for so long", she said.

Sir Arnold's closest brush with death occurred in 1909, while still an undergraduate at Balliol. He fell 150ft. from the edge of "The Table" on the east ridge of the Cyrway in North Wales. The lower part of his right leg was bent almost at right angles, shattered and crushed and since then has been two inches shorter than his left.

He was advised not to climb again; but two years later he scaled the great Mont Blanc at Zermatt. He recounts in his book how a Swiss companion remarked: "Below the snowline Lunn was cosmopolitan and urbane, but the moment the real climb began he degenerated into *an vrai type Anglo-Saxon*."

The book, Sir Arnold's fifty-first, will be published by Allen and Unwin on April 18 next year, the author's eightieth birthday.

PHS

The Times Diary.
PHS

The Times (London, England),Monday, Nov 27, 1967; pg. 8; Issue 57109.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS135097723

Anger in Israel over US bank's order

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT—Jerusalem, Nov. 28

On June 5, the day the Arab-Israel war broke out, the First National City Bank of New York telegraphed to a leading commercial bank in Tel Aviv and ordered it to destroy all the unsold First National City travellers cheques in its vaults.

The action, which was not disclosed at the time, was confirmed today by Dr. Ernst Lehmann, the joint general manager of the Tel Aviv bank, the Bank Leumi le-Israel.

The move infuriated Israel bankers and brought a prompt retaliation. A few days after the war, Israel withdrew the several million dollars in currency reserves it had deposited in the First National City Bank.

The Israel withdrawal order was accompanied by a letter from Mr. David Horowitz, Governor of the Bank of Israel, the nation's central bank, expressing the Israel irritation at the New York bank's move.

In July, on a trip to New York, Mr. Horowitz brought the matter up personally with officials of First National City.

"It was a stupid thing for First National City to do", said another Israel banker, who asked not to be identified. "It was foolish from a purely practical point of view, because the bank has a great number of Jewish depositors who were sure to be angry when the story got out.

"I suppose they were afraid that Tel Aviv would be overrun and the Arabs would issue their cheques without paying for them. Or perhaps they were worried about damaging their relations in the Arab countries.

NEW YORK, Nov. 28.—The First National City Bank said today that at the outbreak of the Arab-Israel war last June, it sent cables to all banks in the war zone that sell its travellers' cheques—not just those in Israel—instructing them to destroy any unsold cheques in their vaults.

Included in the group, a spokesman for the bank said, were banks in Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Tunisia and Syria, in addition to Bank Leumi in Tel Aviv.

First National City denied that the Bank of Israel had withdrawn "several million dollars in currency reserves" a few days after the war was over. The spokesman added, however, that he could not say that there was no withdrawal of any kind. —*New York Times News Service.*

Anger in Israel over U S bank's order.
FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Nov 29, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57111.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS84241789

Aden handed over to Arabs

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

GENEVA, Nov. 29

The National Liberation Front delegation that has been negotiating the South Arabia handover with representatives of the British Government flew back to Aden today with its hopes of immediate large-scale financial assistance unfulfilled but by no means demolished. Britain finally relinquishes jurisdiction over South Arabia at midnight tonight.

A joint statement said that further negotiations would be held on aid. In the meantime, Britain would continue " existing financial assistance for civil and military purposes " for the next six months.

The final session was tough indeed, continuing, with only a short break, for more than 24 hours.

Quiet withdrawal from Aden, page 5, Leading article, page 11

British envoy to Egypt named

The Foreign Office announced yesterday that diplomatic relations with Cairo will be resumed on Monday and confirmed that Sir Harold Beeley will be the new British Ambassador.

Aden handed over to Arabs.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Nov 30, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 57112.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS18312574

THE TIMES DIARY

Hassan, harbinger of Arab thaw
Railmen face the music
Peter Parker's bookish bent

THE ARRIVAL here next week of the Egyptian chargé d'affaires, Salah el-Din Hassan, who is to reopen diplomatic relations in London, is likely to speed moves already afoot for renewing ties between Britain and the other Arab countries, severed after the June war.

Since the Anglo-Egyptian rapprochement, the bulk of the Arab world has shown what almost looks like keenness for renewed relations with Britain. It now seems likely that by January Sudan and Algeria will be ready to announce final arrangements for reopening their London embassies, while Iraq will reestablish relations on a consular level, as a prelude to going the whole hog. Syria, observers agree, remains imponderable.

Although only 46, Mr. Hassan is one of Egypt's most highly regarded diplomatists. For the past year he has directed the Egyptian Foreign Ministry's North American department and is said to be something of an expert on "les Anglo-Saxons".

A career diplomatist, Mr. Hassan entered the foreign service after reading economics and political science at Cairo University. Not long after, he went to Washington as an attaché in the embassy there. He has also served in Paris, at the U.N., and in San Francisco and Kuwait.

Keen athlete

Tall, bald but handsome, he has a friendly manner and is a keen athlete. Not new to London, he was last here a year ago on a brief visit with his wife and daughter.

Friends say that the task of putting his country's relations with Britain on a firm footing is likely to appeal to him. "He is extremely methodical and attacks problems with mathematical precision", one close to him tells me. "And he is not likely to be caught off guard by the western approach."

Aslef's home, sweet home

A.S.L.E.F., the footplatemen's union, whose work-to-rule seems set to dislocate rail services from midnight tomorrow, has its headquarters in a Hampstead mansion once the home of Sir Thomas Beecham.

The union used to operate from Leeds, but in 1921 it paid the then substantial sum of £10,000 for Westbrow, a property in Arkwright Road, Hampstead, which belonged to Sir Joseph Beecham, the conductor's father.

In those days the magnificent drawing room at Westbrow often resounded to the music of Beethoven and Brahms—and will again tomorrow on the eve of its owners' industrial action.

For the union has generously agreed to allow the Friends of Vellore—who support the All India Medical College at Vellore in southern India—to hold a fund-raising concert in the drawing room, a room seating 120 people.

Whatever charms this crisis-eve music-making may have, it is unlikely to change the A.S.L.E.F. executive's mind.

The man who followed Roy

A RATHER different kind of railway trade unionist has just followed Roy Jenkins from the Home Office to the Treasury. He is Mr. Tom Bradley, M.P. for Leicester, North-East, who was Mr. Jenkins's parliamentary private secretary at both Aviation and the Home Office. Since 1964 he has been president of the Transport Salaried Staffs Association, and constitutes a living retort to those who complain the Chancellor has somehow shabbily deserted his trade union roots.

Son of a Kettering painter and decorator, Jenkins's P.P.S. went into the railways from school at 16. During the war he was a Bevin Boy working underground in the mines. "In retrospect a very rewarding experience because one got to the heart and soul of the Labour movement. But I hated it while I was working there."

While a railways cost clerk at Leicester he worked his way up in T.S.S.A. and as treasurer from 1961 to 1964 regularly deputized for Ray Gunter, then president. A long-standing friend of Roy Jenkins, he was a Gaitskellite and founder-



Tom Bradley.

member of the Campaign for Democratic Socialism. He has been a consistent supporter of the Prices and Incomes policy, arguing that in a wages free-for-all his own members are customarily the hindermost whom the devil takes.

His wife, Joy, is a former school teacher: they have two sons, David six, and Peter, four, and live in Kettering. Like his master, Bradley is a keen European—he is deputy chairman of the Labour Campaign for Europe—and was one of those who publicly argued for devaluation some time before it came.

The bookman from Bookers

MR. PETER PARKER, who is rumoured to have reached a compromise with Mrs. Castle on a salary for the chairmanship of British Railways, spends some of his time and energies in bookshops rather than Booker Brothers—more specifically at Dillon's University Bookshop, of which he is an active chairman. A member of the Court of London University, who own Dillon's, he was appointed chairman after the death of Lord Piercy last year.

His own taste in books is varied. "The last lot I bought on my Dillon's account were that new and splendid Cockburn, *I, Claud*; a fine new edition of William Blake's collected works; a set of essays about Blake; and the latest paperback on de Gaulle.

"Now what does that show? Well, the first—the Cockburn—is wonderful fun. Blake? I've always regarded him as one of his country's great national resources. The de Gaulle paperback?—It shows you just how much he's changed his opinions."

Where does he do most of his non-business reading? "I tend to be found standing up in the bedroom, bent at various odd angles over books." He also finds himself voraciously reading old newspapers—"I hate to throw them away. And I have deep feelings of guilt about all the books I've bought and not yet had time to read—I find myself flinching back from the shelves."

If Mrs. Castle has her way, he will presumably flinch much more.

Film man's philosophy

PETER WHITEHEAD, the only British director represented at the New York and London film festivals, has been filming a documentary about New York, following the success in America of his self-styled "pop concerto" on swinging London, *Tonite Let's All Make Love in London*.

But he is abandoning the New York film only a third of the way through. "I'm starting it again as a documentary about myself making a documentary. The film is about protest, about the effectiveness of violence and non-violence; but to



Peter Whitehead.

make a documentary about protest is just protest at one remove.

"As a film-maker who can make his own contribution, I decided to make a fiction film about an assassination. A film for me must be the experience itself: not just a record." He pauses to brush his limp blond hair from his pale blue eyes.

Protest has to be violent, he says—"because of the nature of the administration and its stubborn quality. It's impossible to do anything in New York now without being involved in commitment and protest. All of them are very critical of what's happening in Vietnam, poverty, the race problem, to the point where one is satiated with protest while everything quietly gets worse.

Cut to music

"The question is: how can one get back to a position where someone will listen to what you say? You have to either burn yourself on the steps of the Pentagon or become an Oswald, a personal assassin."

Whitehead is 30, bright and talkative. After Cambridge he went to the Slade School of Art as a painter and emerged as a film-maker. He made *The Perception of Life*, a science documentary about biology shot entirely through a microscope, for the Nuffield Foundation ("I did it as a ballet, and cut it to music. They weren't happy about it, but I was."); worked for six months as a newsreel cameraman for Italian television; and in 1965 made *Wholly Communion*, a documentary about the Albert Hall poetry reading which won him a gold medal at Mannheim.

Ensembles are more fun

THREE musicians individually long known for their solo performances—Alan Loveday (violin), Amaryllis Fleming (cello) and John Williams (guitar)—make their London debut as a trio on Sunday, when they will play the Paganini Trio in D for violin, cello and guitar at the Queen Elizabeth Hall.

Away from the capital these three have been playing as a trio since 1959. "It's much more fun playing ensemble", says John Williams, "and specially with friends. There's quite a strain in doing a whole recital oneself. Here one is playing chamber music, and one's enjoyment is easier to get over to the audience."

Alan Loveday agrees. "There isn't the strain, and the performance has much more intimacy. We started doing it more or less for fun" (with Julian Bream as guitarist before 1959) "and never really treated it like an ordinary trio. It was an occasional thing among friends."

For Sunday's concert, when each will also play solo Bach works, Loveday is using a Guarneri baroque violin with fittings and lighter, shorter, bow as they were in Bach's time. "It has a more mellow tone rather than the penetrating, brilliant tone of the modern-style violin."

PHS

The Times Diary.
PHS

The Times (London, England),Saturday, Dec 02, 1967; pg. 8; Issue 57114.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS134835586



Soviet bombers on a good will mission, flying over Cairo. In the foreground (left) is the Cairo radio building.

Soviet bombers on Egypt mission

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT—Cairo, Dec. 3

A squadron of Soviet TU-16 bombers flew low over the Nile at Cairo today at the start of a goodwill mission to the United Arab Republic. The Egyptian authorities claimed that it was the first time such a visit had been paid to any non-communist country. The squadron landed at Cairo West, a British bomber station during the Second World War, and is likely to stay here for some time.

There was no official announcement on the visit until late yesterday evening, and the first that most of the ordinary citizens of Cairo knew about it was on the radio or in the papers this morning—unusual for a city so chronically nervous of air raids that even the customary Ramadan gun denoting the permissible time to begin and end eating during the month of fasting is not being fired this year.

Land facilities

Diplomatists in Cairo find the visit of interest on two counts.

The first is the promise apparently extracted from the Russians by Mr. Amin Huweidy, the War Minister, when, with Mr. Ali Sabry, the Vice-President, he represented the U.A.R. in Moscow at the fiftieth anniversary of the Soviet revolution, that they would supply Cairo with bomber replacements. This was a reversal of the Russian decision immediately after the Arab-Israel war that Egypt would only be restocked with defensive equipment.

The second reason is the request known to have been made by the Russians for "land facilities" for naval and air forces—not to be confused with military bases, of which the U.A.R. Government disapproves as strongly as ever.

What the Russians, with their ever increasing presence in the Mediterranean, apparently want are servicing points for both their Navy and Air Force, along with centres where sailors and airmen can go when off duty. In the east Mediterranean Egypt provides the obvious answer, and the country certainly owes Russia a debt of gratitude over the matter of military supplies.

At the Cairo embassies, the air attachés are wondering whether the bombers Moscow will give Cairo are to be TU-16s. It seems the visiting aircraft are going to stay here long enough for Egyptian pilots to have a good look at them. They can be described as obsolescent and are certainly no match for the Mirage fighters on the Israel side, but would pose a threat of night bombing and could deal with the Israel Mysteres.

More importantly, perhaps, they represent an element of the offensive to the Arab world, which somewhat unfairly looks to Cairo to provide this.

Resignation of bishop sought

FROM RICHARD WIGG

BUENOS AIRES, DEC. 3

Mgr. Jeronimo Podesta, Bishop of Avellaneda and one of the reformist figures in the conservative-minded Roman Catholic Church of Argentina, has been asked to resign. In a statement issued yesterday, the Bishop said that the request came from the Papal Nuncio.

The Bishop has demanded the right to give a personal explanation to the Pope, maintaining that his renunciation of office would be "neither morally nor juridically" acceptable without an audience. However, he reaffirmed his complete obedience to the church.

Mgr. Podesta, who is 46 and comes from a well-to-do Argentine family, has been Bishop of Avellaneda, a sprawling industrial and working class diocese, since 1962. He has been sympathetic to workers' causes, advocating a redistribution of wealth, and frequently preached on the recent encyclical *Populorum Progressio*. Recently the bishop spoke at a workers' meeting at which supporters of the former dictator Juan Perón also took part.

Arab terrorists die in attack

Soviet bombers on Egypt mission.
FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Monday, Dec 04, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57115.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS84110724

Aid to Egypt increased

From Our Correspondent

CAIRO, DEC. 3

Egypt's financial aid provided by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Libya is to be increased by 14.3 per cent following devaluation of sterling. The authoritative newspaper *El Ahram* today reported that King Feisal has informed the Egyptian Minister of Economy, Hassan Abbas Ekii, that Saudi Arabia has agreed to pay its share of the £95m. aid at the pre-devaluation rate.

Aid to Egypt increased.
From Our Correspondent

The Times (London, England),Monday, Dec 04, 1967; pg. 19; Issue 57115.

Category: Business and Finance

Gale Document Number:CS320695684

Israel call for arms supply

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

TEL AVIV, DEC. 5

Mr. Eban, the Israel Foreign Minister, referring today to the squadron of Soviet TU-16 strategic bomber aircraft which landed in Egypt, said the enlarged Soviet presence in the Middle East will not deter Israel from persevering in her efforts to safeguard her security.

In a report to the Knesset, Mr. Eban reaffirmed Israel's determination not to budge from territory captured from Egypt, Jordan, and Syria until the establishment of peace.

Mr. Eban also mentioned the arms deliveries from the Soviet Union to Arab nations and said Israel was entitled to a response to her urgent demands for the supply of arms essential to prevent war and deter aggression.

Face to face

However, the fate of the region would be established by its sovereign states, not by outside pressures or interests. The Arab nations and Israel should look one another more in the face and less at outside factors.

Peace negotiations should provide for secure and recognized boundaries, the opening to all shipping of all international waterways leading to and from the Red Sea, an end to enmity, and the groundwork for constructive regional cooperation.

The Israel railways were sabotaged by terrorists last night for the second time in 40 hours. Two soldiers and two railway workers inspecting the trucks on the line to the Negev were injured by a mine on a bridge.

Fresh tracks of three men were found today and Arab villages in the area were searched. Train services to the Negev were suspended this morning but were resumed in the afternoon.

Soviet wheat for Egypt

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

CAIRO, DEC. 5

The Soviet Union is to supply Egypt with 100,000 tons of wheat under an agreement signed in Cairo. Payment is to be made in instalments —over an unspecified period.

Three Russian naval units arrived at Port Said to replace three others which left the harbour yesterday. There are also several Soviet warships at Alexandria. A squadron of Soviet strategic bombers arrived in Cairo on Sunday on a friendly visit.

Israel call for arms supply.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Dec 06, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57117.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS67464582

FRANCE PROSPERS IN ARAB LANDS

Iraq oil rights the plum

From NICHOLAS HERBERT, Beirut, Dec. 6

French diplomacy, which has been having a prodigious year in the Middle East, remains as active as ever and the fruits are juicy. The plum has been Iraq's north Rumaila oilfield, which the French Earp will now be able to exploit, but there are signs that much else may fall into the Gallic lap.

It is an irony of truly Gaullist proportions that this should be happening to the country whose Mirage and Mystère aircraft were used to demolish Arab hopes in the summer.

Mr. George Brown, the British Foreign Secretary, is doing none too badly with the return to Cairo and the retreat from Aden, but he has a long way to go if he is to match President de Gaulle's sleight of hand.

Djibouti suspicion

If the French have an Achilles' heel it is surely in French Somaliland and, passing through Djibouti last week on their way from Aden, a party of British journalists were made aware that the French knew it. We arrived planning to stay overnight before going on to Addis Ababa, but a distracted French official assured us that all the hotels were full of Japanese deep-sea fishermen.

Eyeing the television crews suspiciously, he announced that a special aircraft had been arranged to take us to Ethiopia and he even arranged a truce between Air Djibouti and Ethiopian Airlines to do it.

The change in South Yemen's planned independence day had deposited us in Djibouti on the opening day of the new Legislative Assembly, which accounted for a marked decline in French enthusiasm for the Royal Navy's plan for putting us off there. Weakened by watching colonialism fade from Aden, we went to Addis Ababa, to the infinite relief of our distracted host.

The technique is, by and large, a successful one, though it would surely not work in Bahrain, and French Somaliland is forgotten.

Nasser tribute

President Nasser has paid tribute to General de Gaulle for standing by the Arabs, and an Egyptian spokesman says that the Arab summit conference will consider the General's press conference remarks about the Middle East.

The French President's description of Israel as warlike and expansionist has obtained him highly favourable reviews in the Arab press and has obscured his call for Arab recognition of Israel, which nevertheless stands.

Admittedly a report from Paris that France was advocating demilitarization of Arab territory now under Israel occupation has been ill-received, but most comment has been prefaced by the belief that the report was false. The official Jordan newspaper *Al Destour* said today: "The whole story may be an intrigue."

President de Gaulle is also riding high in Syria, where no other western nation is even mounted, and it was reported from Damascus today that Dr. Zeayen, the Prime Minister, might soon lead a delegation to Paris. Dr. Zeayen received the French Ambassador in Damascus and later saw the Syrian envoy to France, who is at home for consultations.

Syrian speculation

The ruling Baath party has been playing host to a French communist delegation with which it has been discussing a plan for progressive left-wingers of the Mediterranean to hold a conference. The published results of the visit went to form: agreement that Britain, the United States and west Germany were responsible for Israel aggression, and that the United States Sixth Fleet effectively took part in it and that an international front of anti-imperialist forces should be formed.

What may have been agreed beneath this revolutionary froth remains unclear, but there has been some astonishing speculation about Syrian intentions

According to *The Arab World*, a well-informed newsletter, it has been suggested that the strong Alawite faction in the Baath leadership may be hoping to revive an alliance said to have existed between the French and the Alawites in the days before Syrian independence. It sounds fanciful enough, but the theory is that this may be a hedge against too complete cooperation with the Soviet Union.

Loan to Lebanon

Be that as it may, France is prospering in the Arab world and Israel is presumably committed to French arms. A large French loan to Lebanon has been announced. Additional credit has been extended to Egypt, whose compensation debt for French properties seized in 1961 has been converted into a loan from France. A French electronic firm is equipping the new Damascus airport and a variety of other agreements have been signed.

One newspaper in Basra lamented recently over Iraq's failure to start cooperation with France earlier. "If we had done this instead of having been close to Britain, our benefits would have been greater. A few months of cooperation between Iraq and France have produced more results than a generation of cooperation with other western powers."

France Prospers In Arab Lands.
From NICHOLAS HERBERT

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Dec 07, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57118.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS69299591

Egyptian assurances on Soviet visit

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT—Cairo, Dec. 6

Egypt would grant no bases to any foreign power, Dr. Zayyat, the official Government spokesman, reiterated today when questioned about Soviet TU-16 bombers now on a visit here.

"It is a friendly visit", he said. "It is a limited visit. Perhaps other visits will come."

Speaking of Russian oil refineries to be set up in Egypt, Dr. Zayyat said he did not know exactly where they would be, Soviet refinery equipment was now arriving and was being stockpiled in various places in Egypt.

Yemen delay

Asked when Mr. Brezhnev would visit Egypt, Dr. Zayyat said he had no exact date. However, the Soviet leader would be here by January 9 when he and President Nasser are due to visit the Aswan high dam for the anniversary celebrations of the first ceremonial blasting of rock at the site.

Dr. Zayyat said the bulk of the Egyptian troops would be out of Yemen by mid-December, and all of them by the end of the month. There would be continuing Egyptian military and civil aid to Yemen. Although Dr. Zayyat did not say so, the delay in removing Egyptian troops is due to a shortage of shipping.

Egypt was "encouraged" by General de Gaulle's peace plan for the Middle East, Dr. Zayyat said. The Egyptians realized that the French President's suggestions were not made out of any animosity towards them. Dr. Zayyat said: "I refuse to believe that peace is not possible."

£1m narcotics cache found

CAIRO, Dec. 6.—Police have found about £1m. worth of narcotics while searching for the bodies of Israel airmen who baled out along the Gulf of Suez after their aircraft had been shot down.

The newspaper *Al Ahram* reported today that a group of border police found 1,500 kilograms (about a ton and a half) of hashish and 500 kilograms of opium hidden among rocks near the gulf.—*Reuter.*

Egyptian assurances on Soviet visit.
FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Dec 07, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57118.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS69430663

Storm in Israel over warning to Egypt

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Tel Aviv, Dec. 10

On the eve of the arrival of Dr. Gunnar Jarring, the United Nations representative, in the Middle East to try to patch up Israel-Arab differences, an internal storm erupted today in the Israel Government coalition over a public statement by Mr. Yigal Allon, Minister of Labour, warning Egypt that she could expect a reply in kind if she attacks Israel population centres with non-conventional weapons.

Mr. Allon, who is a member of the ministerial security committee, made the statement in a lecture in Haifa.

Officials here would not say whether they had information that President Nasser was planning such an attack, apart from the public knowledge that Egyptian forces were being trained to fire Luna ground-to-ground rockets, and the missiles of the Komar and Ossa rocket-carrying boats acquired from the Soviet Union.

Mr. Allon said that Israel's shelling of the oil refineries at Suez on October 24 in retaliation for the sinking of the destroyer Eilat should teach Egypt what to expect if she bombards Israel population centres from the air, ground or sea. He pointed out that Egypt's population centres were more vulnerable than Israel's now that the front line was on the Suez Canal.

Israel has never acknowledged she had ground-to-ground or sea-to-sea missiles. Mr. Allon was said to have committed a breach of security when he declared: "Every weapon Egypt can produce or purchase with the aid of a great power, we can match —sometimes with and sometimes without the aid of a big power."

Officials of the defence establishment privately criticized Mr. Allon for his statement, and the Minister was also taken to task by the evening newspaper *Maariv*. It said that if there was information that Egypt was plotting such action, the Prime Minister or the Minister of Defence should have reacted. If it was merely rhetoric, Mr. Allon had no business creating panic.

Mr. Abba Eban, the Foreign Minister, was criticized by another faction of the Government coalition. The Gahal Party organ *Hayom* complained of his speech on Friday in which he censured pressure groups agitating against ceding conquered territories to the Arabs.

Last night, in the Jordan valley, the fuel tank of a water pump at Maoz Haim was blown up, and mines were found at a fish pond at Kfar Ruppin. In each case, the tracks of four men led to the Jordan river.

Storm in Israel over warning to Egypt.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT-Tel Aviv, Dec. 10

The Times (London, England),Monday, Dec 11, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57121.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS84241803

FEARS OVER IRAQ

From MOSHE BRILLIANT—Tel Aviv, Dec. 11

Mr. Abba Eban, the Israel Foreign Minister, said today that a French supply of military aircraft to Iraq would undermine the balance of security in the Middle East, which Paris herself had always described as "a primary guarantee for the prevention of war".

Mr. Eban, alluding to reports that President de Gaulle considered Iraq a non-combatant, said supplying arms to that country was equivalent to supplying them to Egypt or Syria.

Winding up a foreign affairs debate in the Knesset, Mr. Eban recalled that France, which had been Israel's principal supplier of weapons up to the Arab-Israel war this spring, had "played the role since 1955 of balancing the armament of the Arab states by the Soviet Union".

"If in addition to freezing this action", he continued, "France joins those who arm the Arab states, there will occur in the balance of security in the Middle East a double and triple misbalance." He assured the House that the dialogue with France was continuing and that the balance of power was the central theme.

Policy of war

Regarding Iraq, Mr. Eban said her declared policy was the renewal of war with Israel. "Iraq has taken an active part in the war against Israel", he said. "Her planes were the first to bomb Israel's civilian population." He noted that 20,000 Iraq troops were stationed east of the Jordan not far from the ceasefire line and that Iraq officers and instructors in Jordan territory had been helping terrorists to infiltrate Israel territory.

Mr. Eban also pointed out that Iraq had declared war on Israel and that all United Nations resolutions on the Middle East dispute had recognized her as one of the countries taking part in the fighting.

Fears Over Iraq.
From MOSHE BRILLIANT

The Times (London, England),Tuesday, Dec 12, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57122.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS102329740

Neutral zone has Nasser support

Plan for Sinai withdrawal

From ERIC PAGE—Cairo, Dec. 12

President Nasser is willing to keep Egyptian forces out of part of Sinai peninsula if it is evacuated by Israel forces, and if Israel agrees to demilitarize an equal area on her side of the Egypt-Israel border, informed sources said today.

There was no official confirmation of the report, which was the first indication from Cairo of a major area of possible accommodation between the two nations since the June war.

The sources, who declined to be identified for publication, said the demilitarization could be supervised by the United Nations if and when Israel withdrew her troops from the peninsula, which she seized in June.

The question of demilitarization is expected to be raised during the visit here of Mr. Gunnar Jarring, the United Nations representative in the Middle East, who arrived in Beirut today.

The Security Council resolution on the Middle East, under which U Thant appointed Mr. Jarring, confirmed the necessity of "guaranteeing the territorial inviolability and political independence of every state in the area through measures including the establishment of demilitarized zones".

By insisting privately that any eventual demilitarization be Israeli as well as Egyptian, President Nasser was protecting himself against criticism from extremist elements within the United Arab Republic and elsewhere in the Arab world.

Straits of Tiran

Publicly the U.A.R. adheres to the general Arab position—reiterated at the Arab Foreign Ministers' conference that closed here yesterday—that Israel's withdrawal from Arab territory she occupies should be immediate and unconditional. But the sources said the agreement on creation of demilitarized zones might precede Israel's withdrawal from the peninsula.

It was assumed here that President Nasser has already communicated his position to the Israel Government indirectly.

The only other area where the Egyptians have indicated a willingness to come to terms is the question of passage through the Straits of Tiran. Egyptian officials have hinted that the U.A.R. would accept free passage of Israel vessels through the straits—which are now controlled by Israel—pending a decision on their status by some international juridical body.

The U.A.R. contends that the straits are within its territorial waters, while Israel claims the right of passage.—*New York Times News Service.*

Russians fly MiGs in Yemen

FROM HEDRICK SMITH

WASHINGTON, DEC. 12

The United States has received reliable reports that Russian pilots have been flying combat missions for the Republican Government of Yemen in recent fighting there.

American officials reported tonight that a young Russian Air Force captain was shot down late last week by Royalist tribes in the hill country just a few miles north of Sana, the Yemen capital. He reportedly died when his aircraft crashed, but carried Soviet identification papers. Intelligence reports indicate that he had been flying a bombing and strafing mission against Royalist positions when his aircraft, a Soviet-built MiG fighter, was shot down.

From this and other reports, American officials have concluded that Russian airmen are serving as combat pilots for a shipment of MiG-19 fighter-bombers hurriedly delivered to Yemen in mid-November to replace the departing Egyptian air force. Yemen apparently did not have enough combat-qualified pilots to man these aircraft.

There was no immediate indication of the size of the Russian flying contingent, but American officials put the total number of Russian military advisers and technicians in Yemen at about 50.—*New York Times News Service.*

Vote on S Yemen

FROM OUR UNITED NATIONS CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK, DEC. 12

The Security Council today decided unanimously to recommend to the General Assembly that the People's Republic of Southern Yemen, formerly the South Arabia Federation, should be admitted to membership of the United Nations.

Neutral zone has Nasser support.
From ERIC PAGE-

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Dec 13, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57123.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS84110733



Members of the Nuseirat tribe who have crossed the Jordan river out of Israel-held territory. Jordan declared they were deported, and their village destroyed; Israel says they moved at their own request.

PEACE MISSIONS FAN OUT IN MIDDLE EAST

From NICHOLAS HERBERT—Beirut, Dec. 12

Peace missions fanned out over the Middle East today bearing olive branches into all corners of the Arab world. Probably no such agglomeration of mobile foliage has been since Macbeth watched his doom approach, and the now habitual pessimism on the ground was not wholly dispelled today by the airy optimism which the start of a peace mission always requires.

Mr. Gunnar Jarring, the United Nations peace envoy, arrived from Cyprus to the tune of newspaper reminiscences about the assassination of Count Bernadotte, one of his predecessors, and reports that the forthcoming Arab summit would take little note of his coming.

Doubts on Syria

His first appointment of note was with Mr. Hakim, the Lebanese Foreign Minister, who, primed at a meeting last night with President Nasser in Cairo, was reported to be going to insist on total Israel withdrawal behind the June 5 frontiers. Understandably, in the circumstances, Mr. Jarring decreed that the press should be kept at bay and extra security arrangements were made for his visit, although Lebanon is on the whole flattered that it has been chosen as Mr. Jarring's first port of call.

He is to go on to Jordan on Friday and Egypt after the weekend, but it remains uncertain whether Syria will swallow its objection to the British Security Council resolution and receive its salesman.

Damascus is, however, to play Dunsinane to other peacemakers. The Arab Foreign Ministers, who concluded a meeting in Cairo yesterday, have asked Ahmad Laraki, the Moroccan Foreign Minister, and Ismail Khairallah, the Iraq acting Foreign Minister, to try to persuade the Syrian Baathists to relax their opposition to Arab summit conferences.

Encouraged, perhaps, by the fact that the Syrians allowed their ambassador in Cairo to sit in at the Foreign Ministers' meeting, they now hope to get a representative from Damascus at the Arab summit meeting in Rabat on January 17.

Syria, it seems, prefers the sword and, though pleased that Mr. Jarring's mission has been played down by the Arab Ministers, may not yet have been won round even to relatively bellicose diplomacy. Nevertheless, when he returns from Paris, Dr. Zeayen, the Syrian Prime Minister, may find considerable pressure being put on his Government.

Ahmad Laraki may well find himself festooned with greenery, for Morocco has also been charged with overcoming King Faisal of Saudi Arabia's shyness about the Rabat conference. It appears that Saudi Arabia, which is already subsidizing Egypt and Jordan to the tune of many millions, is wary of being seduced into further extravagances.

It is reported from Cairo that Saudis were suggesting in private that those Arab countries which got themselves involved in what is euphemistically called "the setback" last June should get themselves out of trouble. So a peace mission to Riyadh seems to be in order.

British envoy

Probably the happiest of all peace missionaries on the move is Sir Harold Beeley, who today realizes the ambition of becoming again Britain's Ambassador to the United Arab Republic. Diplomatic relations were formally resumed between Cairo and London almost exactly two years after they had been broken off by Egypt over the Rhodesia issue. Much water has flowed under Cairo's bridges since then and Sir Harold's seems on balance the most hopeful of all the missions today.

Grim plight of refugees

FROM OUR UNITED NATIONS CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK, DEC. 12

The plight of the Arab refugees in the Middle East, their number increased from 1,350,000 by another 300,000 after the war of last June when Israel occupied the west bank of the Jordan, is now being debated by the special political committee of the General Assembly.

On the face of things, the outlook for the refugees is singularly bleak. The United Nations Relief and Works Agency (U.N.R.W.A.), which has been coping with the problem for nearly 20 years, is now faced with greater needs and less money to spend.

Mr. Lawrence Michelmore, the Commissioner - General of U.N.R.W.A., has estimated that the agency will need about $47,500,000 (some £19m.) in the coming year, mostly to carry out its former mandate but also to deal with the new influx of homeless people caused by the last Arab-Israel war.

The extra cost of the "emergency activities" arising from this latter cause is in the neighbourhood of $5,700,000 (about £2,280,000). However, far from this extra money being available, indications are that the contributions made to U.N.R.W.A. will this year be less than before.

Peace Missions Fan Out In Middle East.
From NICHOLAS HERBERT

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Dec 13, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57123.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS84503949

ARMS FOR ISRAEL

SENATOR JAVITS of New York said yesterday that it would be " a pure case of irresponsibility " if the United States did not step in and replace France as the prime supplier of arms for Israel. It may well have to come to this. The Russians have been speeding delivery of arms to many Arab countries, those affected as well as those unaffected by the June war. Not only have Egypt and Syria had most of their losses made good, but arms are being poured into Yemen just at a moment when, with Egyptian troops gone, this poor country had at last some chance to work out its own future. All this activity does indeed deserve the name of " pure irresponsibility ". There was a chance this summer that armaments in the Middle East might be balanced at a rather lower level than before. The Russians know as well as anybody else that it is going to be balanced at some level; if it is to be a high one, with all the danger that implies, they will be largely to blame.

France has sent Israel no Mirage planes since the June war, and it is this ban which makes Israelis look elsewhere. But that is only the beginning of their worry. Since PRESIDENT DE GAULLE'S press conference on November 27 they have reluctantly come to the conclusion that they are the victims of a reversal of alliances. That, indeed, is how the GENERAL'S remarks have been understood by the Arabs.

These remarks were no less striking and less expected than others on the same occasion about Britain, the Common Market, and Canada. After mentioning the inherent difficulties of a Jewish state planted in Arab surroundings, he went on:

> Some even feared that the Jews, hitherto dispersed, who had remained what they had always been, that is to say an elite, sure of themselves and dominating, might, once they were brought together in the sight of their ancient grandeur, transform into ardent and conquering ambition the very moving hopes they held for nineteen centuries—" next year in Jerusalem ".

This is the sort of historical philosophizing of which other countries have in the past been presidential targets. But it struck chilly at Jewish hearts in France as in Israel. Many French Jews who, high or low, have served the GENERAL, felt for the first time a sharp conflict of loyalty. Those who saw in his remarks a whiff of anti-semitism may have been unduly pessimistic, but DREYFUS and Vichy are too close for comfort.

Gaullists can argue that the GENERAL was only switching the ruthless logic of his attention to another part of the troubled world. The Franco-Israel alliance was a by-product of the Algerian war, based on a common hostility to NASSER, and since Algeria became independent the French Government has been patiently rebuilding its friendship with the Arabs. But to continue this policy the GENERAL had no need to speak as he did on November 27. The prospect now is that France is to become a supplier of arms to Arab countries which ask for them.

It is impossible not to see this as the opening of another front in the campaign against the Anglo-Saxons. French competition for an oil concession in an area from which the Iraq Petroleum Company has been dispossessed is a skirmish in the same campaign. Whether the motive which drives the GENERAL is simply a wish to extend wherever possible French influence and culture, or his still bitter memory of what happened in Syria and Lebanon during the war, this policy seems isolated and short-sighted.

Arms For Israel.
The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Dec 13, 1967; pg. 11; Issue 57123.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS184905101

ISRAEL PROHIBITS SUEZ DREDGING

Egypt's concern 'unfounded'

From MOSHE BRILLIANT—Tel Aviv, Dec. 13

Israel has refused to allow an Egyptian dredger to enter the Suez Canal to clear silt from sections on Lake Timsah and the Bitter Lake.

A Defence Ministry source said today that the Egyptian claim that the work was necessary for the safety of foreign ships stranded in the waterway was unfounded.

He said that General Odd Bull, head of the United Nations cease-fire mission, had been notified that the navigation of an Egyptian dredger in the waterway would be a breach of the agreement providing that vessels of both countries would navigate the canal, or neither.

In an explosion this morning in a market in Israel-occupied Gaza, 42 persons were injured, four of them seriously.

In the Jordan valley yesterday evening, an Israel soldier patrolling in a jeep was killed in a blast. An early report said the vehicle had been hit by a bazooka shell but it was later said a grenade had been thrown.

Our Cairo correspondent writes:

Israel was responsible for closing the Suez Canal and is responsible for keeping it closed, Dr. Zayyat, Egypt's official spokesman, said today. If the Israelis would withdraw completely from Sinai, he said, necessary work on both sides of the canal would begin.

New pipeline

But clearing the canal was not the same thing as permitting ships to pass through it. It was Dr. Zayyat's personal contention that Israel wanted the canal closed. That was why they had shelled all the operations buildings of the Suez Canal Authority at Suez and why they were building a 42-inch pipeline from Eilat on the Gulf of Aqaba to Ashdod on the Mediterranean at a cost of £100m. Egypt wanted it open; this was a practical pragmatic problem, not a political one.

On the Arab summit meeting to be held in Rabat, he said that any Arab leader could bring up any subject he liked. The agenda fixed by the Foreign Ministers was thus not rigid.

Long-term plan for refugees

FROM OUR UNITED NATIONS CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK, DEC. 13

A far-reaching plan for the resettlement of most of the 1,600,000 Arab refugees displaced by wars in the Middle East since 1948, is about to be submitted by Israel to the United Nations.

Israel sources here declined to anticipate the contents of the plan. However, indications are that it may envisage, a five-year approach to the problem and may include a broad-based economic and agrarian reconstruction of the mainlly barren territories where the Arab refugees now eke out an existence. This could be along the lines of the Tennessee Valley Administration and similar ambitious projects in Iran and Vietnam for which Mr. David Lilienthal, the United States planner, has been responsible.

Labour party merger in Jerusalem

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

TEL AVIV, DEC. 13

A marriage of Israel's three Labour parties, joining Mapai, Rafi, and Ahdut Haavodah, was arranged today when the convention of the Rafi party in Jerusalem gave formal consent to the union. Mapai and Ahdut Haavodah had already approved.

The three parties, which control 59 of the 120 seats in the Knesset (Parliament) have all been members of Mr. Levi Eshkol's coalition Government and the merger will not affect Government policies. The main significance is that Mr. Eshkol, of Mapai, who at 72 has shown no readiness to yield power, is now in the same party with the two principal rivals for succession, General Moshe Dayan, 52, of Rafi, and General Yigal Allon, 49, of Ahdut Haavodah.

The power struggle has thus shifted from the national arena to within a single party.

Mr. David Ben Gurion, the former Prime Minister whose feud with Mr. Eshkol split Mapai in 1965 and led to the establishment of Rafi, announced last night that he would not join the United Party. He said he did not share the views of his colleagues, who believed they would change Mapai from within.

Rafi's main *raison d'être* has been the removal of Mr. Eshkol; and the party served notice that the campaign will continue. Mr. Ben Gurion drew long applause at the convention when he said: "Mr. Eshkol lacks the qualities required of a Prime Minister and he has some qualities that are unbecoming to a Prime Minister."

General Dayan said he favoured joining the party to fight from within to oust Mr. Eshkol and Mr. Pinhas Sapir, the Finance Minister.

Man's kidneys in two women

SYDNEY, Dec. 13.—Doctors at Prince Henry Hospital here last night transplanted the kidneys from an accident victim into two women.

The delicate four-hour operations were performed in adjoining wards simultaneously by a team of 12 doctors on two married women. One is aged 43 and the other 38. Doctors today described their conditions as satisfactory. *Reuter.*

Israel Prohibits Suez Dredging.
From MOSHE BRILLIANT-

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Dec 14, 1967; pg. 5; Issue 57124.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS85814670



Dr. Ahmad Hassan el-Fikky, the new Ambassador of the United Arab Republic to Britain, with his wife at Heathrow Airport yesterday.

EGYPT'S AMBASSADOR ARRIVES IN LONDON

Dr. Ahmad Hassan el-Fikky, the first Ambassador of the United Arab Republic to Britain since the republic broke off diplomatic relations over Rhodesia two years ago, arrived in London yesterday.

Dr. Fikky, a former professional soldier who joined the diplomatic service in 1954, has been Ambassador to Libya, India and Canada, and also Under-Secretary at the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Replying to questions at Heathrow airport the Ambassador said that before resuming diplomatic relations with Britain, Egypt had approached the African governments, especially those which had also severed relations with London.

Dr. Fikky made it clear that Egypt expected British support in the Middle East. She wanted the Suez Canal to be reopened. "It is for our benefit and for the benefit of the world.

"Peace and justice in the Middle East are inseparable. There can be no peace superimposed on a genuine grievance", the Ambassador said. "In the pursuit of this aim my people and my Government expect the cooperation and positive response of the British Government and people."

He came to Britain hoping to "usher a new era of purposeful relations", and added that "evidence of British understanding of our national objectives, shown in recent months", had paved the way for constructive relations.

Egypt's Ambassador Arrives In London.
The Times (London, England),Thursday, Dec 14, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57124.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS102067598

Egypt will try 60 on conspiracy charge

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Cairo, Dec. 17

Sixty persons, including two former ministers and a former chief of intelligence, are to be tried on charges of trying to take over the United Arab Republic's armed forces headquarters last August.

The principal accused are Shamsuddin Badran, the former War Minister, Abbas Radwan, former Minister of the Interior, and Salah Nasr, the ousted intelligence chief. They are accused of conspiring and attempting to seize the headquarters to reinstate Field Marshal Abdul Hakim Amer, the former First Vice-President and deputy supreme commander of the armed forces, who lost his post after the war with Israel in June and later took his own life.

It is reported here that investigations in the case have been completed and that indictments are to be issued soon No date has yet been fixed for the trial, but it is expected to take place in January.

Our Tel Aviv Correspondent writes:—

The Israel Government today issued a statement expressing regret over a pledge by General Moshe Dayan, the Defence Minister, to fight to unseat Mr. Levi Eshkol as Prime Minister, and Mr. Pinhas Sapir as Finance Minister.

General Dayan is a leader of the Rafi party, which last week voted to merge with Mr. Eshkol's Mapai party and Ahduth Ha'avoda, a smaller labour party. The Defence Minister, who favoured the merger, said he would fight inside the united party for a change in leadership.

Today's statement said General Dayan had made it clear that his remark did not allude to the present Government of national unity under Mr. Eshkol. General Dayan had explained that he wanted to oust Mr. Eshkol and Mr. Sapir after the next elections in 1969.

Egypt will try 60 on conspiracy charge.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Monday, Dec 18, 1967; pg. 4; Issue 57127.

Category: Law

Gale Document Number:CS68644242

Israel build-up on Canal

Egyptian officers' concern over lack of a presidential lead

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

CAIRO, DEC. 20

The Egyptian Government and foreign observers in Cairo are worried by the sudden build-up of Israel air and ground forces on the east bank of the Suez Canal. There is a considerable movement of armour, and forward fighter strips have been constructed, sometimes only a few hundred yards from the canal bank.

Mystère fighters can be seen operating from one of these by crews of foreign ships that have been trapped in the Great Bitter Lake since Egypt closed the canal last June.

A subsidiary worry is that many Army officers, including senior ones, feel that they do not know President Nasser's mind. These argue that the United Arab Republic President in his November 23 speech said that the forces were stronger than before the Israel attack, and used such phrases as "what has been taken by force must be retaken by force."

They are advocates of hitting the Israelis before the Israelis hit them and, not surprisingly, they are mostly to be found in the armoured divisions and in the Air Force. Most of them know about the late Field Marshal Hakim Amer's alleged will, though *Time* magazine, which published extracts, has not been permitted into Egypt. It is Amer's supposed assertion that Egypt became involved in the war with Israel without taking the initiative, without planning it, and without choosing the date that most interests these officers. Watching the movements on the other side of the canal, they fear that this situation may arise again.

President Nasser has not deliberately misled his compatriots. They may not know that he expressly urged the Arab states to accept the British resolution in the Security Council, though it was not fully satisfactory to them, because he needed military breathing space. But his close confidant, Mr. Heikal, editor of *Al Ahram*, has constantly given warning of the need to make time by going through diplomatic motions even though war is the ultimate sanction.

The Russians certainly know that Egypt is not yet ready to fight again. Mr. Yinogradov, their energetic Ambassador in Cairo, has, according to reliable sources, not only told President Nasser so but has given the warning that when Mr. Brezhnev arrives in Cairo in the first half of next month he will tell the Arabs to hold their horses.

The Russians are part of the trouble. They are now training the Egyptian Army at all levels and they drive hard. There are no more long weekends' leave in Cairo for either officers or men serving in the eastern desert, and Egyptians loathe living, largely underground, in the desert. Egyptians do not like being given orders by outsiders. There are certainly some officers who regard Soviet military aid as bringing the spirit of revolution with it, but even they find that technicians from Russia and other eastern countries—doubtless under orders—are unwilling to talk politics. The majority of officers, however, feel that they are being driven hard, and by strangers, when they have both the skill and will, and President Nasser has told them that they have the equipment, to go out and hit the Israelis where it hurts.

The Government knows about this officer unrest—President Nasser has reorganized his intelligence service—and throws it into the machine as one of the many factors which must make up a decision on military or political action. One senior and well-informed civilian official has told me that after the "popular uprising" in favour of President Nasser last June 9 and 10 it would be impossible to spring a military *coup* because there is no well-known military leader. Others point out that Neguib was more popular than Nasser when the former was overthrown.

The matter of urgency at the moment, however, is that the Israelis appear to have moved into position to strike deeply into the Egyptian defences, which even around Cairo and Alexandria are not as strongly prepared as President Nasser's words may have led some to believe.

Major-General Moshe Dayan, the Israel Defence Minister, publicly stated his disappointment that the Israel victory in June did not unseat President Nasser, who is a fixation with the Israelis. Obviously they do not fear the Egyptian Army, but they cannot but be afraid of the long-term political effects of President Nasser's persistent pan-Arabism.

Those Egyptian officers who are itching to attack believe that President Nasser could not survive as President after another defeat by Israel. Nor do they wish to be party to his removal in defeat. But if he is unwilling to take a quick initiative in a military situation which they honestly believe is becoming daily more dangerous, they might have to take the initiative on their own. This is the dilemma of good officers serving a President whom they do not wish to destroy.

Egyptian officers' concern over lack of a presidential lead.
FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Dec 21, 1967; pg. 6; Issue 57130.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS100887957

BLEAK PROSPECTS FOR UN MISSION

Arabs at loggerheads

FROM OUR MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT
Beirut, Dec. 21

Mr. Gunnar Jarring, the United Nations special envoy, who is now back at his headquarters in Cyprus, has remained silent about the results of his first foray into the Middle East, but there has been plenty of wild surmise from the Arab press.

Mr. Jarring himself has loyally restated his optimism in Lebanon, Israel, Jordan, and Egypt in turn, but he is also reticent and it is safe to assume that most of what has been written about his mission was not inspired by him.

The muses who have been willing to speak seem to be many and various for there is a full range of opinion.

The mission is already a failure (Beirut). It is doomed to failure (Cairo). It is not doomed to failure (Cairo). There is a Jarring plan, which calls for demilitarization in return for withdrawal (Beirut). Mr. Jarring's talks have so far been entirely exploratory (Amman). Mr. Jarring is going to New York next week (Cairo). Mr. Jarring is going to Cairo next week (Cairo). The mission is an aspirin that dulls pain without curing it (Beirut). It is living proof that the United Nations is dominated by imperialism and Zionist gangs (Damascus).

All this seems to tell as little about the Arab world's attitude towards the mission as about anything else, but it does symbolize the disunity with which the Arabs are condemned to wrestle. Its revival at present bodes ill for Mr. Jarring's efforts.

Even the sobering effect of Ramadan, the Muslim month of fasting, has not made itself felt in Yemen, which has relapsed into one of its less memorable periods of chaos. Algeria simmers, Syria thunders, albeit a little less intransigently, against the dangers of accepting international mediation.

Saudi Arabia is at daggers drawn with a passing Yemen Republican Government which accuses it of fomenting civil war. A full turnout at next month's summit meeting in Morocco is far from certain.

Israel offers aid to open Canal

TEL AVIV, Dec. 21.—Israel is prepared to help to extricate the 14 ships held in the Suez Canal since the Middle East War in June, according to an Israel newspaper.

The newspaper, *Yediot Ahronot*, said today that the issue of the ships held in the canal had been raised by Mr. Jarring, and Israel had promised to help. However, the Foreign Ministry did not confirm the report and insisted that the talks were secret.

"Israel's affirmative reply was given as a gesture of good will towards the United Nations and towards a number of western countries [whose ships were involved]", the newspaper said.—*Reuter*.

Disclosure of Tonkin Gulf plan

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT
WASHINGTON, DEC. 21

Senator William Fulbright, the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, today released an extract from secret congressional testimony confirming that the State Department had prepared "contingent drafts", similar to the Tonkin Gulf resolution, some time before the North Vietnam attacks on American warships in the gulf in August, 1964.

In the course of the testimony Senator Fulbright asked Mr. William Bundy, Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs, when the Tonkin Gulf resolution had been prepared.

Mr. Bundy: We had contingent drafts, which however did not very closely resemble the draft, for some time prior to that. . . .

The chairman: What do you mean, prior to when?

Mr. Bundy: Prior to August, 1964. But this is a matter of normal contingency planning. No serious thought had been given to it, to the best of my knowledge, prior to the Gulf of Tonkin.

We had always anticipated the possibility that things might take a more drastic turn at any time.

The release of the testimony will tend to confirm the suspicions of congressional dissenters who have for some time alleged that the Tonkin Gulf incident was merely the pretext which the Administration used to push a ready-made resolution through a compliant Congress.

In his annual report to his constituents Senator Fulbright said today that national pride and not national security was the main reason why the United States was fighting in Vietnam

Bleak Prospects For Un Mission.
FROM OUR MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Friday, Dec 22, 1967; pg. 3; Issue 57131.

Category: News

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TIMES PAST
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VERY LITTLE PEACE ON EARTH

The saddest paradox of Christmas is, and always has been, the contrast between the message of hope and good will, and the relative lack of hope or good will that still afflicts a great part of the globe. Gloomy though this Christmas may be for Britain at least Santa Claus can stand in the street without being shot at. There are many places where he could not do so. This needs to be remembered.

We are accustomed to think of peace as the normal condition of man, and of war as a distressful interruption. But, if one observes human history whole, it is painfully obvious that wars and threats of war are the more normal condition. Indeed, looking around the world it is difficult to muster any hope more ambitious than that the human race as a whole will continue to survive. If it does MR. DEAN RUSK will regard it as a success, but it is also an appalling commentary on the state of the world that any greater ambition is likely to seem naive.

Almost wherever one looks there is war or the threat of war. There is actual fighting in Africa and Asia. There could easily be renewed fighting in the Middle East. There could be civil war in Greece, violence in Latin America and in the United States. Even in Europe the equivocal status of Berlin could still provoke a crisis.

A hopeful sign

If there has been some progress in recent years it is represented mainly by the tender plant of responsibility and understanding that has grown up between Russia and the United States. The fact that two large powers proclaiming two different ways of life once thought incompatible can find ways of living together and communicating with each other is a hopeful sign. It would have been difficult to predict in the early 1950s and was not really confirmed until the Cuban missile crisis of 1962. It still cannot be taken for granted. Nevertheless, it is gradually eroding the myth that something called communism is confronting something called capitalism in a sort of holy war that one must win and the other lose. To be largely rid of this myth is a very real step forward.

But other dangers have arisen to take its place. There is the imminent prospect of the spread of nuclear power among smaller countries that may still have to go through the crises and confrontations that alone seem to teach responsibility. There is the progressive loss of control over smaller powers by the larger powers. This is caused partly by the break-up of wartime alliances, partly by natural erosion, and partly by the knowledge among the smaller powers that the nuclear inhibitions of the great powers permit others to take risks that were out of the question when there was more danger of sparking off a nuclear war.

Even so, local conflicts can still suck in the great powers. This is now a far greater danger than planned war between the great powers. Vietnam is the prime example. It is not merely a local conflict but a major tragedy for the world. It is not just devastating Vietnam itself; it is corrupting American society, destroying her moral position in the world, severely hampering the necessary development of east-west relations in Europe, and increasing the risk of a major clash with China.

Bitter legacy of Vietnam

Vietnam is the bitterest legacy of the old year and the most difficult and dangerous challenge of the coming year. It can be settled only by both sides realizing that a military victory for either is impossible, and that the cost of continuing the fighting far outweighs any benefits that either can expect from continuing it. How long the world will have to wait is anyone's guess. It is possible to imagine a quite rapid and sudden settlement. It is equally possible to envisage the war continuing for a very long time. May the appeals of the POPE and U THANT do something to prevent this.

The condition of the Middle East is bleaker than at any time since the foundation of the state of Israel. Not, of course, for the Israelis, at least for the immediate future. They have complete military mastery of the Middle East (suggestions that by rearming the Egyptians and Syrians, the Russians are somehow making the shattered Arab armies worthy opponents for the Israelis are patently ludicrous). They control Egypt's principal economic asset, the Suez Canal. They control the second holiest city in Islam, Jerusalem, and the rest of the West Bank territories of Jordan, which were that country's principal economic asset. They control the Golan Heights, 30 easy miles from Damascus.

But also they have over a million and a quarter Arabs under their direct rule now and the demographic and security problems they will encounter in years to come, if they keep their conquests, are already clearly visible. At present they retain a large measure of western sympathy and support (even in DE GAULLE'S France) but this can hardly last if so large an Arab population is kept indefinitely in a state of helotry.

Therefore PRESIDENT NASSER still speaks of regaining by conquest what has been lost by conquest, and the best peace offer the Arabs can bring themselves to make is a *de facto* recognition of Israel, in her prewar frontiers, with freedom of passage through the Straits but not the Canal, in exchange for a complete withdrawal of Israel's army.

It is not a good enough offer for the vanquished to make to their conquerors, and everyone knows it. The chief sufferers are the refugees. At least 300,000 old and new refugees have fled the occupied territories to find inadequate shelter in Jordan and Syria.

There is no joy in Africa. Look at the continent where you will: in the north, where Egypt and Israel maintain an uneasy truce; in the south, where South Africa's fear of retribution is betrayed in ever more repressive legislation; in the west, where Nigeria is ruining herself in a civil war of tragic futility; or in the centre—Rhodesia, and the Congo. Only in East Africa does any semblance of stability reign at present, and even there it is a fragile thing liable to be upset by the death of an elder statesman or pressure from without. Terrorists train in Tanzania, Uganda looks fearfully over her shoulder at the Congo, and Kenya comes ever closer to the question of who will run the country after KENYATTA.

Problems facing Africa

Africa has become the dream world of the amateur CASSANDRA, proof-positive alike for those who decry the black man's ability to rule himself, and those who see the end result of white domination as violence and death. It is not a pretty picture, nor is it likely to become so in the coming year. In Rhodesia we can expect to see a tightening of the economic stalemate, coupled with increasing incursions of "freedom fighters" from the north and a concomitant rise in the scale of military aid from South Africa. In Nigeria, while the civil war may well be won and lost at the cost of untold lives, there is no prospect whatever of a political compromise that could bind the country together again. And the Congo, is the Congo, is the Congo.

Dahomey has just experienced its fourth *coup* in seven years, and is more than likely to have another in 1968. The Central African Republic is currently being bolstered by French troops, and Sierra Leone may soon be involved in a tricky transition from military to civilian rule. In Ghana the National Liberation Front looks secure enough at the moment (though there are rumours to the contrary), but the promised handover of power to the politicians could cause fresh trouble. West Africa today is almost totally in the hands of military regimes of varying quality, and some countries must be wishing that, like Gambia, they had denied themselves the luxury of an army.

There are but two hopeful signs to light Africa's way into 1968. One is the increasing influence of the Organization of African Unity with its implication that member countries are beginning to realize that their common interest must sometimes override national pride. The other is the enthusiasm being shown for the East African common market, and the tentative moves being made to duplicate it in the West. The new nations will ultimately succeed or fail on the strength of their economies. The sooner they can accept this fact and put away their guns, the sooner will there be joy in Africa.

The way ahead

With the world in a palpable mess the main problem facing the great powers is how far, if at all, they can jointly use their power to settle conflicts, and how far they must simply agree to remain aloof and resist the temptation to profit. In the long run neither policy will be sufficient. Avoiding war has now become a matter of survival, yet the means of avoiding it remain elusive. If diplomacy has so far managed to avoid a holocaust it has done so as much through good luck as good judgment. There still lingers among people as well as governments the remnants of the old feeling that war can be gilded with glamour, and that it is a legitimate extension of diplomacy.

What is lacking is a real understanding of the roots of human behaviour, of the drives and responses that start or provoke wars. If Christmas is ever to mean real peace on earth the main hope must rest not with politicians and diplomatists but with the scientists, sociologists and psychiatrists, the people who study the behaviour patterns of animals and humans, tribes, and advanced societies. Without the knowledge that they are still groping for, the diplomatists and politicians will continue to flounder, and Christmas will continue to be a sad reminder of man's inability to live up to his own image.

Very Little Peace On Earth.
The Times (London, England),Saturday, Dec 23, 1967; pg. 7; Issue 57132.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS117665175

ECONOMY AXE OVER THE F 111

From Air Marshal Sir Patrick Dunn

Sir,—No doubt your Defence Correspondent in his article on December 21 is right in suggesting that in our present economic straits the F 111, like any other Government programme, must be subject to scrutiny.

However, I hope that public debate on the matter will take place against a deeper understanding of the strategic and military significance of this aircraft than your Correspondent's article will generate.

In the first place, one must dispose of the suggestion that an aircraft like the F 111 is only relevant to operations East of Suez. This is not so. There is a real role in Europe for it with its range and power of penetration against sophisticated defence, which defence will certainly be more formidable in Europe than outside. Moreover, it can provide support for Nato while remaining based in the United Kingdom, so saving foreign exchange.

The F 111 can, of course, carry nuclear weapons but this is not its primary task. It would constitute part of the deterrent forces available to the West—by reason of its reconnaissance capability before and after any hostilities; its effectiveness as a strike aircraft, especially to reduce hostile air attack on Nato ground forces; and in its complementary role to Nato's close support aircraft which would be free to operate in cooperation with ground troops.

The suggestion that once operations had reached this stage 50 British F 111 aircraft would be irrelevant does not bear examination. Strike and reconnaissance operations of this sort, once hostilities had broken out, must be seen in the context of an escalating situation. The tactical air forces of the Warsaw Pact countries are the most formidable conventional threat to Nato. According to a recent Institute of Strategic Studies study there are large numbers of Soviet and east German tactical air forces permanently stationed on forward airfields in east Germany. Nato must have the means to diminish these forces conventionally; the only alternative would be to use nuclear weapons from the outset.

These means must include the ability to destroy the attacking forces at source, i.e., on airfields between the east German frontier and that of Russia proper. In this context F 111s operating from the United Kingdom make obvious and vital military sense. Of course, such a battle could not be contained in a conventional phase indefiniely. Its purpose, so far as the West is concerned, would be to give time for sane counsels to prevail and for the attacker to withdraw before nuclear weapons are used—and finish us all.

There is now no cheaper aircraft than the F 111, or one which could be modified, which would provide the same reconnaissance and striking power. Even if there were, I would not feel as sanguine as your Defence Correspondent about the economic implications of cancelling the F 111 in its stead. Not only would we lose the opportunity of other offset orders but the published figures imply that the effect of cancellation would be a net increase of dollar expenditure in 1968-69.

Yours faithfully,

PATRICK DUNN.

Little Hillbark, Hockett Lane, Cookham Dean, Berkshire, Dec. 26.

SPORT AT OXBRIDGE

From Dr. M. M. Clark

Sir,—Mr. Betts has suggested, in his letter today, that Oxford and Cambridge should compete against the other Universities. The British Universities Sports Federation organizes some 25 championships for various sports and in the majority of these the two Universities are well represented.

Attempts are being made to establish University rowing championships and it is suggested that Oxford and Cambridge will compete.

Nevertheless in many of the major sports much of the attraction is removed since the various captains insist on their sides being the Occasionals or Casuals. One can have sympathy towards this attitude since it could be said that a prior meeting would detract from the annual Varsity match. It is of small solace for a University to defeat Oxford only to see the match described in the leading newspapers as that of an Occasional side.

I would like to take Mr. Betts' ideas even further and to suggest that the time has arrived for Oxford and Cambridge to consider relinquishing the seats that they hold by tradition on the governing bodies of various sports in order that organizations representing all Universities may be represented.

Yours faithfully,

M. M. CLARK, Dean of Students, University of Surrey, Battersea Park Road, S.W.11, Dec. 22.

KURIA MURIA ISLANDS

From Dr. R. B. Serjeant

Sir,—About 15 months ago, through Sir Richard Turnbull's kindness, I accompanied the High Commissioner's party on its visit to the Kuria Murias. During our brief stay on Hallaniyah, the only inhabited island, I was able to effect certain independent private researches.

The islanders belong to the Shahra tribe. Only the headman is really conversant with the lingua franca, Arabic, for the islanders speak the non-Arabic language Shahri. On asking them the important question as to whom they would resort for a decision in the event of disputes between them and other persons or groups, their reply was, "To Sa'id bin Taimur", i.e. the Sultan of Muscat and Oman. In my experience of South Arabia this is almost the only real indication of sovereignty, slight as it may seem. They stated that a century ago, more or less, their ancestors had migrated to the Kuria Murias from the Shahra district of the Sultanate, and they still had connexions with the mainland from which, for instance, they might seek brides.

I cannot understand Mrs. Nicholls's suggestion (December 14) that the Kuria Murias did not belong to the Sultan of Muscat and Oman at the time of the cession to Great Britain—except in so far as all that *belongs* to a ruler in Arabia is his own personal estates, while tribal territory belongs to tribes. This does not seem to have always stopped Arab rulers from doing deals about tribal territory none the less! The Omanis occupied the mainland of this (the Zufar) area in 1829 and, according to so good an authority as S. B. Miles, have held it ever since, though not without occasional attempts by interlopers to dispossess them.

Even under the umbrella of remote British protection the islanders in 1966 still considered themselves, it is quite clear, under the aegis of the Sultan of Muscat, and the British never administered and rarely visited the islands. The N.L.F. occupying Aden at present has no valid claim to the Kuria Murias by any token. The islands could however be useful for naval attacks on the Sultanate which has economic potentialities and advantages not found in the former British protectorates.

We have already been treated to the spectacle of Egypt while putting out a virulent propaganda barrage against colonialism engaged in a cruel colonialist war in the Yemen—does the N.L.F. in its turn consider an absurd pocket colonialist war in the Kuria Murias to "liberate" 40 islanders whose Sultan does not even tax them? There could however be a more serious aspect to the N.L.F. démarche—the extent of the influence of the communist countries with the N.L.F. is obscure, but appears to exist.

Russian interest in this part of the world is known, and Russian fishing vessels put in to the Kuria Murias—there is no reason why they should not, but in the circumstances of these last years one wonders if there is also a political aspect.

Your sincerely,

R. B. SERJEANT, Director Middle East Centre.

Pembroke College, Cambridge.

ARMS FOR SOUTH AFRICA

From Professor A. V. Hill, C.H., F.R.S.

Sir,—Expressing indignation and urging proscription is a usual way of bolstering one's self-esteem: it relieves one also of having to do anything more practical about its object.

I deplore racial discrimination with the best of the protesters, but have never known anyone mend his ways in consequence of boycott or ending civilized relations. Also I do not believe that ships and aircraft can be used to enforce apartheid. Certainly they could be used to repel invasion; but which of the protesters will openly admit that he hopes for the invasion of South Africa?

Nevertheless if any of them hope privately for violence as a solution, let them recall the war between North and South in the United States. This cost a million casualties, appalling misery and many years of bitterness. But who can believe that slavery could have continued for long in the United States without it, or that racial discrimination would now be worse than it is?

Yours faithfully,

A. V. HILL.

11A Chaucer Road, Cambridge.

A false distinction

From Mr. Stanley Rosenthal

Sir,—The distinction which those in favour of a relaxation in the South African arms ban make between small arms which can be used to put down a local insurrection and planes and submarines which can only be used in the country's self-defence is a spurious one.

If it is wrong for us to supply arms which can be directed against the South African resistance movement surely it is equally wrong to provide arms which might be employed against those nations (perhaps even the United Nations) which might some day be provoked into intervening militarily on behalf of the oppressed.

Or does the moral basis of this distinction rest on the proposition that it is wrong to help a white government to brutally suppress its colour population but right to help the same government keep others out while the butchery is taking place?

Yours faithfully,

STANLEY ROSENTHAL.

9 Lancaster Court, Newman Street, W.1.

Relations with Russia

From Mr. Oliver D'Arcy Hart

Sir,—Sir Arnold Lunn asks, in his letter of December 21, how some members of Parliament can protest against our maintaining our trade relations with South Africa, without also recommending that we break off trade relations with Russia.

What these M.P.s are opposed to is any transgression of our embargo on arms to South Africa. Since Britain does not export arms to Russia surely this is a perfectly tenable position.

Yours faithfully,

OLIVER D'ARCY HART.

King's College, Cambridge.

AMERICAN CONGRESS

From Dr. Manfred Wolff

Sir,—As an American professor spending a year in London, I have managed to achieve some degree of tolerance to the tone underlying many newspaper articles dealing with American affairs, but the misrepresentations which constitute Mr. Louis Heren's "Cloud cuckoo world of American Congress" on December 19 cannot be left unchallenged.

If it is recalled that the American Federal government was formed by a group of sovereign states, the congressional "power of obstructionism" which so alarms Mr. Heren becomes less ominous. In fact, it is this power, together with other measures like the Presidential veto and legislative review by the Supreme Court which constitutes the means (checks and balances) for assuring constitutional government and for preventing the concentration of power in a small group of individuals. These "checks and balances" are central to American government in general—state and local as well as federal—and to fail to recognize this is to misunderstand the entire system.

Mr. Heren's recital of conditions of poverty in the United States would be more useful if it were accompanied by an infallible cure for these problems. There is great confusion on the remedy for the urban crisis among Americans generally and this is quite naturally reflected in Congress. Efforts are being made at the level of state and local government, and it should not be concluded that Federal programmes represent the only solution to these difficulties.

What did the nineteenth Congress approve? Increases in social security benefits, the continuation of urban, educational and poverty programmes, model cities, rat control, air pollution, consumer standard and educational broadcasting legislation, a pact regulating arms in space and terms for the railroad strike settlement. Congressional reorganization was approved by the Senate but not the House. The tax increase and civil rights proposals were not approved.

The nineteth Congress was neither the best nor the worst of Congresses, but any one who imagines it operated in a "cloud cuckoo world" might profitably first examine his own frame of reference.

Sincerely yours,

MANFRED E. WOLFF.

5 Sunnyside Place, Wimbledon, S.W.19.

DATED BREAD

From Mr. Alun Davies

Sir,—Bakeries of the British Army wrap their loaves in paper stamped with the date on which the loaf was baked. If this procedure were to be adopted by other bakeries it would not only help the housewife who holds a number of loaves to use in rotation, but would also prevent the buying and selling of old bread in error.

Yours faithfully,

ALUN DAVIES.

49 Beechwood Road, Sanderstead, Surrey.

Kuria Muria Islands.
R. B. SERJEANT, Director Middle East Centre. Pembroke College, Cambridge

The Times (London, England),Wednesday, Dec 27, 1967; pg. 9; Issue 57133.

Category: Letters to the Editor

Gale Document Number:CS151874971

Nasser may free Suez ships

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

CAIRO, DEC. 27

Egypt is considering plans for extricating the 14 ships trapped in the Suez Canal—in the Great Bitter Lake—since the Arab-Israeli war in June. The newspaper *Al Ahram* today reported that an extensive study by navigation experts had shown the feasibility of the operation.

It added that Mr. Brown, the Foreign Secretary, had sent a message to President Nasser concerning the release of the four British ships there. They are the Port Invercargill (10,463 tons), Agapenor (7,654 tons), Scottish Star (10,174 tons), and Melampus (8,511 tons).

Al Ahram said President Nasser promised Mr. Brown he would investigate the matter. Other countries whose ships are trapped—France, Poland, west Germany and India—have also approached Egypt.

No appeasement

CAIRO, Dec. 27.—An Egyptian Government spokesman said tonight that the proposal should not be construed as a gesture of appeasement towards Israel, and that no cooperation with Israel forces occupying the east bank would be sought. It would be necessary to work on both banks of the canal if the waterway were opened, and security would have to be guaranteed, he said.—*Reuter.*

Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes: The southern end of the Canal is partially blocked by the small Egyptian tanker, Magd (5,000 tons), which is believed to be easily removable.

Nasser may free Suez ships.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Thursday, Dec 28, 1967; pg. 1; Issue 57134.

Category: News

Gale Document Number:CS17788316

RUSSIA MOVES INTO MIDDLE EAST OIL

Russia and France have lost no time in exploiting the confusion and demoralization among Arab countries that has followed the June war. The deal between the French state oil company, Erap, and Iraq was the first fruit. The deal between Russia and Iraq, announced over the weekend, has followed soon after. France has agreed to act as contractors; Russia to finance the Iraqis' own efforts at exploration and development. At this level they are straightforward commercial deals. But there are other levels.

The land included in these deals is part of the original Iraq Petroleum Company concession, taken away by decree under GENERAL KASSIM'S Law 80. I.P.C. is owned by five major oil companies—British Petroleum, Shell, Mobil, Jersey Standard, and Compagnie Française des Pétroles. As such it has been, almost ex officio, the main political target in Iraq and to strip it of its power has been a high political priority. To the extent that France and Russia are helping Iraq to do this, where other companies have held back for legal reasons, they are serving Iraq's purpose. But the deals would not have been agreed if they did not, at the same time, serve the ends of France and Russia. France would like to see the power of the Anglo-American oil giants reduced. At the same time, it needs to diversify its sources of crude oil, still too dependent on Algeria.

The Russians have always taken an interest in the Middle East and it is all the keener now that they, one of the world's great producers, are facing a real shortage of oil. The combined pressures of increasing domestic demand—which will accelerate sharply if standards of living (which means more plastics, consumer goods, cars — all users of petroleum) rise—and the commitments to supply Comecon countries will mount up to a formidable load on Russian oil resources, and could result in a Russian shortage of crude oil in the early seventies.

Agreements have already been made. The most important was last year's natural gas deal with Iran, under which Iran sold Russia the gas for a steel mill, tube-making plant and machine-tool factories. Rumania has made a barter deal with Iran; Yugoslavia is rumoured to have made a deal with Venezuela. The political aspects of the deal, too, must be attractive to Russia. One immediate consequence of the June war was to make many Arabs, particularly in Egypt and Syria, feel that they had been badly let down by the great power who had earlier encouraged them in their bellicose attitude to Israel. This disenchantment has by now been modified, partly as a result of Russia's massive shipments of arms to replace those lost in the fighting. A deal which directly challenges the position of western owned oil companies helps the process of Russia's rehabilitation in the Arab world.

Russia Moves Into Middle East Oil.
The Times (London, England),Thursday, Dec 28, 1967; pg. 7; Issue 57134.

Category: Editorials/Leaders

Gale Document Number:CS117796252

Hint of early move on Suez ships

UN envoy told of decision

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT—Cairo, Dec. 28

There are hopes that work will begin soon on the release of the 14 ships stranded in the Great Bitter Lake of the Suez Canal since the Arab-Israel war in June.

The Cairo newspaper *Al Ahram* reported today that there were two methods of extricating the vessels —by towing them by way of Port Said to the Mediterranean, which was the original route of the ships, or by towing them to the Red Sea to sail for Europe round the Cape of Good Hope.

The newspaper said that the vessels would, for technical reasons, most probably be towed out at intervals.

The only problem, it said, that could possibly affect the operation was the security of the team of technicians who would carry it out, as they might face provocations from Israelis on the canal's east bank.

The decision to free the vessels was conveyed today by Mahmoud Riad, the Foreign Minister of the United Arab Republic, to Mr. Gunnar Jarring, the United Nations envoy in the Middle East, who arrived in Cairo last night for talks. It will also be conveyed to Lieutenant-General Odd Bull, the chief of the United Nations truce organization.

Visit extended

Egypt has made it clear that the release of the ships in no way means the reopening of the canal.

CAIRO, Dec. 28.—Mr. Jarring today discussed the ships with Egyptian officials. Mahmoud Riad told reporters after meeting Mr. Jarring that the Swedish diplomatist had asked him about Egypt's intentions; he had replied that a technical commission had the question under study.

It was also announced after the meeting that Mr. Jarring was extending his visit to Cairo until Saturday night, when he would return to his office in Cyprus. He had originally been expected to leave tomorrow.

He will have at least one more meeting with Mahmoud Riad, but it was not known today whether he would call on President Nasser.

Proper moment

Sir Harold Beeley, the British Ambassador, had talks last night with Mahmoud Fawzy, the Presidential Assistant for Foreign Affairs. No details of the meeting were issued but it was believed that Sir Harold discussed the release of the ships, four of which are British.

Another diplomatic visitor to Cairo, Mr. Nikezic, the Yugoslav Foreign Minister, said before he left for home today that the Egyptians were making every effort to solve the problem of the blocked ships.

He said Mahmoud Riad had told him that Egypt was greatly interested "in the property of the countries concerned", and this meant that she was "prepared at the proper moment to solve the problem of the Suez Canal and arrive at a solution of the crisis at the right time."

JERUSALEM, Dec. 28.—Israel is reported to have given her consent in principle to the operations required for the release of the ships. The consent was conveyed to Mr. Jarring during his visit in Jerusalem yesterday.

Four of the ships in the Great Bitter Lake are British, the others are west German (two), Polish (two), Swedish (two), American, Bulgarian, Czechslovakian and French. A fifteenth vessel, an American tanker, is in Lake Timsah, about midway through the canal.—*Agence France Presse* and *Reuter*.

DAMASCUS, Dec. 28.—The Syrian Government announced tonight that it will not receive Mr. Jarring, the special United Nations representative.

Mr. Jarring was in Cairo tonight. He has already visited Lebanon, Jordan, and Israel, in addition to Egypt, in connexion with his mission to further a peace settlement.—*Agence France Presse.*

Sabotage attacks in Israel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 28.—Members of the Arab underground organization *Al Fatah* last night carried out two sabotage attacks on Israel collective farms. The Army said today that an explosive charge damaged the water pump installation at Kibbutz Neveh, between the Beisan and Jordan valleys, and another explosion damaged the fruit garden at Kibbutz Ein Door, east of the Tobor mountain, in the Jezreel valley.—*Agence France Presse.*

Soviet mission leaves Iraq

BEIRUT, Dec. 28.—A Soviet economic delegation led by Mr. Semyon Skachkov, chairman of the state committee for external trade relations, left Baghdad today after a month's visit to Iraq, Baghdad radio reports.

During the visit Mr. Skachkov signed a preliminary agreement with the Iraq National Oil Company (I.N.O.C.), under which the Soviet Union will extend the necessary aid and equipment to I.N.O.C. to help it to develop the oil industry, drill wells in south Iraq, and facilitate transport and marketing of its products. The Soviet Union also agreed to conduct a geological survey in north Iraq to explore the oil resources there.—*Reuter.*

Hint of early move on Suez ships.
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

The Times (London, England),Friday, Dec 29, 1967; pg. 3; Issue 57135.

Category: News

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Guard against surprise air attack

From WILLIAM BEECHER—Cairo, Dec. 28

About 35 miles north of Cairo, along the delta road to Alexandria, a number of strange concrete buildings are springing up.

The rectangular structures could easily be taken for storage sheds or barns, except for their unusual front openings which are very wide at the bottom and fairly narrow on top. The buildings, in fact, are individual bomb shelters for MiG fighter aircraft. They are being built in a seemingly random pattern along a two-mile stretch of road.

At one point, a crude airstrip has been constructed, and on the day a correspondent drove by it had about six or seven MiG-17s in the open. Another was visible inside one of the shelters. At another point all trees on both sides of a straight stretch of the two-lane asphalt highway had been chopped down.

Road landings

Diplomatic sources say there have been reports of jets landing on the road. The removal of trees would eliminate a hazard to the swept-back wings of the MiGs, turning the roadway into an emergency landing strip.

This dispersed and hardened "fighter base" is but one unusual example of the kind of pains Egypt is taking to preclude another surprise Israel air strike that could destroy most of its aircraft on the ground.

It is believed that the capacity for survival of Egypt's air force is being improved by some of the following actions:—

Installation of improved air defence missiles in Egypt and improved early warning radar in Egypt, Syria, and Iraq.

Thousands of Soviet advisers and technicians are said to be deployed, drilling the local military on how to operate and maintain radar and other key systems. "Before the June debacle the Egyptians were proud of how they ignored Russian advice", said one diplomatic official. "Now they listen attentively".

Besides replacing 80 to 90 per cent of Egyptian aircraft losses, the Russians earlier this month flew in 10 TU-16 twin-jet bombers for a goodwill visit. Some observers expect that the Russians, by their presence at unknown Egyptian bases, hope to inhibit an Israel strike in some future tense period for fear of hitting and involving them.

Many of the Arab states are believed to have worked out a co-ordinated air plan which, among other things, allows the aircraft of one nation to disperse in an emergency to the airfields of any of the others. Thus Egypt, in a period of mounting crisis, could move bombers to Iraq, Sudan, and even Algeria out of range of Israel's aircraft.

The hardening and dispersal of bases in Egypt is considered one of the most important factors in Cairo's attempt to prevent a repetition of June 5.

The aircraft shelters, for instance, are designed to force an attacking aircraft to focus all of its bombs and rockets on a single shelter instead of running its machine-gun fire along a row of 15 to 20 aircraft in the open, as the Israel attackers did in June. Also, the concrete shelters are thought sturdy enough to withstand anything but a direct bomb hit.—*New York Times News Service.*

London visit for Mr Eshkol

BY OUR DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Arrangements are being made for a visit to London by Mr. Eshkol, the Israel Prime Minister, on his way home from visiting President Johnson.

Mr. Eshkol will be in the United States from January 7 for about eight to 10 days and may visit Ottawa briefly after that. He is likely, therefore, to be in London between January 17 and 20.

Mr. Wilson and Mr. Brown will be particularly interested to hear Mr. Eshkol's views in the light of the second round of visits to Middle East capitals which Mr. Gunnar Jarring, U Thant's special representative, is now paying, and of the talks with President Johnson.

Lisbon arms bill up

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

LISBON, DEC. 28

The Portuguese learnt today that their New Year gift from the Government was the privilege of helping to pay for a defence budget of 8,113,000 escudos (£116m.). This is the highest figure in the country's history.

Announcing details of the 1968 budget, Senhor Ulisses Cortes, the Finance Minister, said that extraordinary defence and security expenditure for the year would be 5,613m. escudos (just over £80m.). The rest was made up from ordinary expenditure on various service departments.

Defence and service expenditure together account for some 37 per cent of the total budget of 22,335m. escudos (£319m.).

Guard against surprise air attack.
From WILLIAM BEECHER

The Times (London, England),Friday, Dec 29, 1967; pg. 3; Issue 57135.

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